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MEDICAL LIBRARY AND HISTORICAL JOURNAL

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THE AUTHOR OF "RAB AND HIS FRIENDS," DR. JOHN BROWN, OF EDINBURGH.*

By FRANCIS R. PACKARD, M.D.,
Philadelphia, Penn.

At the present time Dr. John Brown, of Edinburgh, is known by most readers as the author of "Rab and His Friends," and to some as the author of the beautiful little story of "Marjorie Fleming." In addition to these works there are, however, many other writings of Dr. Brown which still possess much of value and interest, especially to us as physicians, and my chief object in writing of him has been to recall some of these to attention. The man himself is likewise an interesting if somewhat pathetic study, his life commencing with every promise for prosperity and gladness, and closing in sorrow and distress.

John Brown was the offspring from a line of Presbyterian clergymen. His great grandfather, the Rev. John Brown, of Haddington, as he is usually known, began life as a shepherd boy and at the close of his career had achieved a reputation as one of the most learned biblical scholars in Scotland. His "Self-Interpreting Bible" was long a standard work. His son, the Rev. John Brown, of Whitburn, was likewise a man of eminence in the councils of the Church, but the ecclesiastical glory of the family culminated in the father of the subject of this sketch, and it is curious to see how closely his characteristics, as sketched in his "Memoir" by John Cairns, are reflected in the son. The father's life was a somewhat stormy one. He was an ordained minister of the "Burgher" branch of the "Secession" Church, which subsequently became the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland.

*Read at a meeting of the Johns Hopkins Hospital Historical Club on January 12, 1903.

His first charge was in Lanarkshire, but in 1852 he was transferred to Edinburgh, and some years afterwards the congregation over which he presided is said to have been one of the largest in that devout city. It was during this time that one of its periodic waves of theological dissension rent the Presbyterian Church of Scotland. The Rev. Dr. Brown was too eminent a theologian and too good a fighter not to be drawn into the vortex. He was tried by the synod of his Church for heresy in 1845, and was acquitted only after a bitter fight.

His son, the author of "Rab and His Friends" was born on September 22, 1810, at Biggar, in Lanarkshire. In his "Letter to John Cairns, D.D.," he gives us some insight into his childhood and youth. Until the family went to Edinburgh, his father gave the children all the education which they received, and a most excellent education it was. Biggar was nothing but a small country town, but there was nothing provincial about its spiritual guide and some of his parishioners. Brown tells us how his father studied the German theologians; he writes: "After my mother's death I slept with him; his bed was in his study, a small room, with a very small grate, and I remember very well his getting those fat, shapeless, spongy German books, as if one would sink in them, and be bogged in their bibulous, unsized paper; and watching him as he impatiently cut them up and dived into them in his rapid, eclectic way, tasting them and dropping for my play such a lot of soft, large, curled bits from the paper-cutter, leaving the edges all shaggy. He never came to bed when I was awake, which was not to be wondered at; but I can remember often awaking far on in the night or morning, and seeing that keen, beautiful, intense face bending over these Rosenmüllers, and Ernestis, and Storrs, and Kuinoels—the fire out and the gray dawn peering through the window; and when he heard me move, he would speak to me in the foolish words of endearment my mother was wont to use, and come to bed, and take me, warm as I was, into his cold bosom."

Another man of learning in the village, who exerted a powerful influence over the boy was a Mr. Robert Johnston, who had married his aunt. Of this remarkable man, Brown says: "A shopkeeper in that remote little town, he not only intermeddled fearlessly with all knowledge, but mastered more than many practised university men do in their own lines. Mathematics, astronomy, and especially what may be called selenology, or the science of the moon, and the higher geometry and physics; He-

brew, Sanscrit, Greek and Latin, to the veriest rigors of prosody and meter; Spanish and Italian, German, French, and any odd language that came in his way; all these he knew more or less thoroughly, and acquired them in the most leisurely, easy, cool sort of way, as if he grazed and browsed perpetually in the field of letters, rather than made formal meals, or gathered for any ulterior purpose, his fruits, his roots and his nuts—he especially liked mental nuts—much less bought them from anyone." What an example of the learning so often found in the most provincial neighborhoods of Scotland, partly a result, and partly a cause of that eager desire which exists in the bosoms of many of the very poorest Scots that their children should receive a university education, a desire so eager in many instances that it amounts to a passion! The preparatory education which the Rev. John Brown gave his son was of that solid, material kind, which subsequently enabled him to obtain the fullest value from his classical courses at the High School and University, and qualified him to take a scholarly pleasure in the perusal of the classics throughout his life.

There are few more beautiful tributes by any son to a father than the "Letter to John Cairns, D.D." and there are few literary remains which give us as clear an insight into the sources of the characteristics of their author. We see all the way through the description of his childhood at the little country manse, the development of the quiet, strong, lovable nature of the writer and also his tendency to meditative melancholy, which, as he writes of his father was "A condition under which he viewed all things and which quickened and intensified his sense of the suffering of the world and of the profound seriousness and mystery in the midst of which we live and die."

When he was twelve years old his father removed to Edinburgh. After graduating from the Edinburgh High School, the boy graduated from the Collegiate Department of Edinburgh University, and subsequently from the Medical School, receiving his degree of M.D. in 1833.

He was apprenticed, as was then the usual custom, during his medical studies to Mr. Syme, of whom he wrote afterwards that he was "the best blessing of my professional and one of the best of my personal life," and he elsewhere referred to him as "our greatest clinical teacher and wisest surgeon."

Syme was the surgeon who figures in "Rab and His Friends," and throughout Brown's writings there are constant references

to him and to his work, besides an obituary notice of him written shortly after his death. Syme was not only a cousin of Liston, the great Edinburgh surgeon, but also the father-in-law of Sir Joseph Lister, the discoverer of antisepsis. Until Syme's death, he and his former student were the closest of friends, and through this friendship with Syme, Brown was brought into close intimacy with the very best men in the profession in Edinburgh.

In passing, we might call attention to the fact mentioned by Brown that it was Dr. Syme who discovered the solubility of caoutchouc in coal tar, and described it in a letter to the *Annals of Philosophy* for August, 1818, and that it was after this date that MacIntosh took out his patent for the process which has since made his name known in all quarters of the globe.

Brown walked the wards in the City Hospital, and has left us in his most famous work a glimpse of his life as house surgeon. He subsequently served as assistant to a surgeon at Chatham, and during this period there was an outbreak of cholera in the town in which the young surgeon's courage and fidelity to his duty is said to have attracted the notice of Charles Dickens. He did not remain long away from Edinburgh, however, as the prospects of the son of his father were too bright in that city to be idly cast away, and soon after his return he succeeded in acquiring a very large practice.

His earnest work and lovable nature won him hosts of friends, and his medical skill soon procured for him a high reputation as a diagnostician. His bent lay entirely in a clinical direction, and we have no record of any strictly scientific work which he performed; in fact, as we will shortly notice, he did not appreciate the vast importance of the new era then dawning for scientific medicine. He was of a social disposition, and as years went on, his house in Rutland street was the scene of many social gatherings. He is said, by the author of a little memoir of his life, to have known "everyone in Edinburgh except a few newcomers, and to walk on Princes street with him was to realize that this was a literal fact. He generally drove, but when he walked it was in a leisurely fashion, as if not unwilling to be arrested. To some he spoke for a moment, and, though only for a moment, he seemed to send them on their way rejoicing; to others he nodded, to some he merely gave a smile in passing, but in each case it was a distinctive recognition, and felt to be such." A gentleman who frequently saw him in Edinburgh tells me that he was a very big, bluff man, with a frank, open manner. The

first time he met him was at a musicale in Edinburgh, where a young lady, a relative of Brown's, played upon the piano. Brown listened attentively until the performance was at an end, then turning abruptly to a lady who was sitting with my friend, he said, "Miss —— should study Roman history." It was evident that the meaning of his remark was not plain to his hearers. Instead of immediately explaining what he meant, he said to my friend, "What studies do you pursue at the High School?" When told "chemistry, Latin, Greek, etc.," he said, "Do you expect to be a chemist?" "No," was the reply. "Yet your knowledge of chemistry and other extraneous subjects will be of great value to you in anything you may undertake from the breadth of mind, and the training they bring into your life; so also would Miss ——'s rendering of music be improved by a broader preliminary training." Again and again we find Brown recurring to this thought in his writings.

He was a good classical scholar and took a delight in keeping up his acquaintanceship with the old authors of Greece and Rome. His writings are full almost to pedantry of quotations from them. His interest in literature and art was such that whenever a rare engraving, an ancient book, or anything of that nature was unearthed in Edinburgh, it was pretty sure to be brought by the finder to his house "just that Dr. Brown might see it." But the pre-eminent trait of his character was affection, and that is the keynote to all his life; he not only loved others, but inspired a corresponding affection in them. It is beautiful to read the notices which were written at the time of his death. The tone prevailing in all of them is one of personal loss, and many anecdotes are brought forward to instance the sweetness of his disposition.

One who loved him very much wrote, shortly after his death, "In trying to describe anyone, it is usual to speak of his manner; but that word applied to Dr. Brown seems almost unnatural, for manner is considered a thing more or less consciously acquired. In going to see him friends never knew what style of greeting was in store for them, for he had no formal method; each thing he said or did was an exact reflection of the moment's mood, and so was a true expression of his character."

In this same little sketch of his characteristics from which I have drawn very freely, there is an amusing story of his first meeting with the lady who wrote it. She was a school girl friend of his sister's at the time, and he had offered to drive her home

from his sister's house to Edinburgh in his doctor's carriage. "We soon reached said carriage, and my foot was on the step, when again my arm was seized, and this time, 'Are you a homeopathist?' was demanded. I stoutly answered 'Yes,' for I thought I must not sail or drive under false colors. 'Indeed! *they* go outside,' was his reply. This was too much for me; so, shaking myself free I said, 'No, they don't, they can walk.' He smiled, looked me rapidly all over from head to foot, and then said in the same quiet voice, 'For that I'll take you in'—and in I went."

Brown's devotion to this sister of his was most beautiful. For the last sixteen years of his life she kept house for him at his home in Rutland street, and their home was the point around which much that was best in the social and intellectual life in Edinburgh centered. She took the deepest interest in all of his affairs, and during the last few melancholy years did her best to buoy him up and prevent his yielding to the despondency of which he became the prey. It was to her encouragement that we are indebted for much of his literary activity.

It was not until he was 48 years of age that he published "Rab and His Friends." The little sketch achieved immediate popularity and resulted in further literary activity on the part of its author. In 1858 he gathered together a number of essays which he had written, and published them under the title of "Horæ Subsecivæ," which has been happily translated "Brown Studies." A second series was published in 1861, and was soon followed by an American edition under the title of "Spare Hours."

In 1874, his Alma Mater conferred upon him the degree of LL.D. in recognition of his literary attainments.

He had begun to show symptoms of mental failure some years previously, suffering from repeated attacks of melancholia, which, as years went on, increased in frequency and duration. Towards the latter years of his life he received a pension from the Civil List, and his friends raised a large subscription for his support. In 1881 he seemed to recover his cheerful disposition and a large portion of his mental activity, and so much did his condition improve that in 1882 he published a third collection of his writings under the title of "John Leech and Other Papers." The improvement was but temporary, however, and he soon relapsed. He died from pleurisy on May 11, 1882.

In considering the literary works of Dr. Brown, let us first notice those upon which his fame now chiefly rests. Of these

"Rab and His Friends" easily holds first place. It is a trite saying that in English literature there are but few short stories to compare with those to be found in the French language, but we would defy any literature to produce a more complete little classic than "Rab and His Friends." For simplicity, sincerity and obvious truthfulness; for deep pathos and human sympathy; for pure humor and insight into human nature, this simple little story is almost unexcelled.

Rab is a dog, and the story concerns the carter to whom he belongs, and his wife. From the fight between Rab and the Bull-Terrier on the first page to the last page describing the faithful sheep dog's funeral, every paragraph is pregnant with interest. Take the description of Ailie sitting on a sack filled with straw, with her husband's plaid around her, with his big coat with its large white metal buttons over her feet, waiting to see the doctor at the hospital: "I never saw a more unforgetable face—pale, serious, *lonely,* delicate, sweet, without being at all what we would call fine. She looked sixty, and had on a mutch, white as snow, with its black ribbon; her silvery, smooth hair setting off her dark gray eyes—eyes such as one only sees twice or thrice in a lifetime, full of suffering, full also of the overcoming of it: her eyebrows black and delicate, and her mouth firm, patient and contented, which few mouths ever are." Her husband James, with his tender interest and loving care is splendid, and as for Rab, the mastiff, with his "large, heavy, menacing, combative, somber, honest countenance," there is not a dog like him in all literature. Ailie has a cancer of the breast; a surgeon examines it and tells her of the absolute necessity for its removal. Then follows the description of the operation which, aside from the beauty of its language, is interesting because of its contrast with our modern ideas of such occasions.

"The operating theater is crowded; much talk and fun, and all the cordiality and stir of youth. The surgeon with his staff of assistants is there. In comes Ailie; one look at her quiets and abates the eager students. That beautiful old woman is too much for them; they sit down, and are dumb, and gaze at her. These rough boys feel the power of her presence. She walks in quickly, but without haste; dressed in her mutch, her neckerchief, her white dimity short-gown, her black bombazeen petticoat, showing her white worsted stockings and her carpet shoes. Behind her was James with Rab. James sat down in the distance, and took that huge and noble head between his knees. Rab looked per-

plexed and dangerous; forever cocking his ear and dropping it as fast.

"Ailie stepped up on a seat, and laid herself on the table, as her friend, the surgeon, told her; arranged herself, gave a rapid look at James, shut her eyes, rested herself on me, and took my hand. The operation was at once begun; it was necessarily slow; and chloroform—one of God's best gifts to his suffering children—was then unknown. The surgeon did his work. The pale face showed its pain, but was still and silent. Rab's soul was working within him; he saw that something strange was going on, blood flowing from his mistress, and she suffering; his ragged ear was up, and importunate; he growled and gave now and then a sharp, impatient yelp; he would have liked to have done something to that man. But James had him firm, and gave him a *glower* from time to time, and an intimation of a possible kick.

"It is over; she is dressed, steps gently and decently down from the table, looks for James; then turning to the surgeon and students, she curtsies—and in a low, clear voice, begs their pardon if she has behaved ill. The students—all of us—wept like children; the surgeon happed her up carefully—and resting on James and me, Ailie went to her room, Rab following."

For some days Ailie does well. On the fourth she is worse, and the description of her last hours is too pathetic for quotation. The book has gone through many editions and been translated into many tongues, and I have recently been told by a publisher that it is one of the best selling reprints of small books which is published. Brown wrote other canine memoirs, but none of them ever approached "Rab" in interest or beauty.

With the exception of "Rab and His Friends," Brown never wrote anything more beautiful than "Marjorie Fleming." The heroine was a little girl who died of meningitis when not quite eight years old, but who will live forever in Brown's pages as the child-friend of Sir Walter Scott. Brown's sketch is written with such thorough delight in his subject, such appreciation of the humor and pathos of the quaint little girl who died so many years ago, that it fairly carries one away. It is chiefly a running commentary on her diary and letters. Scott said of her: "She's the most extraordinary creature I ever met with, and her repeating of Shakespeare overpowers me as nothing else does." This poor little girl could repeat Shakespeare by the hour, and her innocent little letters are full of references to the most incongruous literary productions. Thus she writes: " 'Tom Jones' and Gray's 'Elegy

in a Country Churchyard' are both excellent, and much spoken of by both sexes, particularly by the men." "Thomson is a beautiful author and poet, but nothing to Shakespeare, of which I have a little knowledge. 'Macbeth' is a very pretty composition, but an awful one. 'The Newgate Calender' is very instructive."

The poor little thing's religiosity is a strongly marked characteristic. Imagine a child of seven writing "I am very sorry to say that I forgot God—that is to say I forgot to pray to-day, and Isabella told me that I should be thankful that God did not forget me—if he did, O what would become of me—I must go to unquenchable fire, and if I was tempted to sin—how could I resist it—O, I will never do it again—no, no—if I can help it." Again, "My religion is greatly falling off because I don't pray with so much attention when I am saying my prayers, and my character is lost among the Braehead people. I hope I will be religious again, as for regaining my character, I despair of it."

This all sounds very priggish, but with the other child-like extracts from her dairy and letters, and accompanied by the loving commentary of Dr. Brown, the pathos is fairly overwhelming. She was a jolly little thing, and wrote evidently from the fullness of her little heart. We can only feel that of all precocious children, little "Marjorie Fleming" was the most loving and lovable, and that in her precocity there was nothing of offense.

To the medical man the most interesting volume of the "Horæ Subsecivæ" is that containing the essay on Locke and Sydenham, and a number of other articles on medical men and topics. In his introduction, Brown gives vent to some of his pet views and opinions upon which he enlarges at length in the essays which follow. Among these ideas are several of great interest. One topic upon which he is particularly strong in his expressions is what he terms "Man-midwifery." He was bitterly opposed to the practice of obstetrics by men, believing that such cases should be attended by women who could be especially trained for the purpose, and should receive good compensation for their services. He writes: "Some of my best and most valued friends are honored members of this branch; but I believe all the real good they can do, and the real evils they can prevent in these cases, would be attained, if—instead of attending to their own ludicrous loss of time, health, sleep and temper, some 200 cases of delivery every year, the immense majority of which are natural, and require no interference, but have nevertheless wasted not a little of their life, their patience and their understanding—

they had, as I would always have them to do, and as any well educated resolute doctor of medicine ought to be able to do, confined themselves to giving their advice and assistance to the midwife when she needed it."

In the case of the country doctor, he was especially anxious that routine midwifery cases should not be considered as an essential part of his duty. His idea was that in every hamlet there was at least one woman who could be trained in such a way as to be perfectly competent to handle ordinary cases, and enough educated to know when she should call on the services of the physician.

He was very much opposed to specialism in medicine, vehemently urging that such methods of practice broke up the old customary relation between the family physician and his patients. Women doctors were anathema marantha to him, and homeopathy fell in the same category.

A topic upon which he loved to discourse was what he termed the hurtfulness of many of the advances in scientific medicine which he had witnessed during his own professional career. He believed that many of the instruments which came into vogue, especially after Laennec's studies in auscultation, had been really injurious to the education of the physician rather than of service to it. He quotes with approval a remarkable saying of Dr. Syme "that during the last 36 years the practice of medicine has upon the whole gone backwards, and that year after year it is still going backwards." Brown makes a strong distinction between the practice of medicine and the study of medicine, conceding that diagnosis had been greatly advanced by the external methods of auscultation, by the advancement in microscopy, chemical analysis, etc., yet he felt that the *tactus eruditus* and the sagacity of the physician had suffered greatly by his too frequent reliance upon these external aids. Dr. Sellar had published, in the *Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal,* a paper entitled "On the Signification of Fact in Medicine, and on the Hurtful Effects of the Incautious Use of such Modern Sources of Fact as the Microscope, the Stethoscope, Chemical Analysis, Statistics, etc." At the present time it would seem as though the publication of an article of this nature would require considerable courage on the part of its author, yet we find Dr. Brown recommending its perusal, and quoting from it. It is curious to note the bitterness with which Syme, Sellar and Brown wrote on this topic.

We are all nowadays more or less familiar with the life of

the Scotch country doctor through the biography of our friend MacLure, by Ian Maclaren, but he has not been the first to receive justice at the hands of a fellow countryman. Walter Scott in his little read novel "The Surgeon's Daughter," depicts in the character of Gideon Gray a beautiful example of this over-worked, under-paid, and most beloved class of men, who, as he says, was worse fed and harder wrought than anyone else in the parish, unless it were his horse. Dr. Brown was greatly stirred by a correspondence in the columns of the *Scotsman* in which the country doctors were held up to abuse and ridicule on one side, and on the other, were warmly defended by their partisans. Brown contributed a short paper to the controversy under the title of "Our Gideon Grays," in which he wrote stoutly in defense of the country practitioner. In it he presents some remarkable facts concerning country doctors which were elicited in 1846 by an association of medical men in Edinburgh, organized in order to express their sympathy with their country brethren, in the remote districts of Scotland, and to gather as much information as possible regarding their attendance upon the poor of the districts in which they practiced. The information which they collected was buried in the appendix of the first report to the Board of Supervision, but the astounding revelations which it made, should be promulgated to the world. The questions were directed particularly to the matter of medical attendance upon the parochial poor; out of 325 returns 94 had received some remuneration for attendance and outlay. In one instance this consisted of three shillings for twelve years' attendance on seventy constant and thirteen occasional paupers. In another instance the doctor attended 400 paupers for eight years and never received any recompense for his skill, his time and his drugs.

Dr. Brown was fond of emphasizing what he called the "Distinction between the science, and the art or craft, or as it was often called, the cunning of medicine," and he loved to expatiate upon the value of the "middle propositions," a term which he borrowed from Plato's statement that "Particulars are infinite, and the higher generalities give no sufficient direction in medicine; but the pith of all sciences, that which makes the artisan differ from the expert, is in the middle propositions." He considered that Plato meant by this the gift of uniting a knowledge of the science of medicine with a capacity to utilize the fruits of that science. He held that the natural consequence of the predominance in his time of what he termed the merely scientific element,

was that the elder members of the profession were too much pushed aside by the younger men. He quotes with great approval Louis' preface to the first edition of his "Researches on Phthisis." "Few persons are free from delusive mental tendencies, especially in youth, interfering with true observation; and I am of the opinion that generally speaking we ought to place less reliance on cases collected by very young men; and above all not to trust the task of accumulating facts to them exclusively."

He strongly advocated the apprenticeship system in the study of medicine, holding that it did away with much of the evils of class teaching and learning from books. Particularly was he inflamed against examinations in the course of medical studies, holding that such methods gave no true insight into the amount of skill in medical science possessed by the pupil, and were generally merely tests of his memory. He has a happy quotation from Epictetus upon this point which is so apt that I am sure you will pardon its repetition. Epictetus says that the system of examination is "As if sheep, after they have been feeding, should present their shepherds with the very grass itself which they had cropped and swallowed, to show how much they had eaten, instead of concocting it into wool and milk."

Two of his short papers are of especial interest to teachers of medicine, one entitled "Education through the Senses," and the other "With Brains, Sir." In "Education through the Senses" he dilates with great approval upon the suggestion of Dr. Adams of Banchory, that ornithology should be taught as a branch of medical education. He believed that the addition of a branch of natural science, in the stricter sense, to the medical curriculum, would cultivate the habit of observation, and would be of inestimable value to the student in pursuing his more strictly professional studies. The paper entitled "With Brains, Sir," is written in his most characteristic and happiest vein. In it he expatiates upon his objections to the cramming system of medical education, striking the keynote of his subject most happily by the statement that he "did not think it was necessary that everybody should know everything, but he did think it was essential for every man, when his turn came to be able to do something."

As I have stated my main reason for writing of Dr. Brown has been to recall some of his less known writings to the attention of the profession. In his time they were widely read, and although his views met with great opposition, they nevertheless were given the respect that is ever due to the frankly spoken

thoughts of an honest man of ability. They seem to us in reading them over, to reproduce with photographic exactness the nature of the man. He was profoundly emotional, almost hysterical. He allowed his personal prejudices to color his views upon all topics, and he was fond of using strong expressions to clothe his sentiments when he voiced them. Although, as can be seen, many of his views were erratic or even absurd, nevertheless, his essays abound in practical suggestions and thoughts which are most helpful.

I am fully aware I have trespassed very greatly upon your patience in the matter of quotations, but I cannot refrain from giving you, in closing, the paragraph in which Dr. Brown sums up the qualifications of a physician. "The prime qualifications of a physician may be summed up in the words Capax, Perspicax, Sagax, Efficax; Capax—there must be room to receive, and arrange and keep knowledge; Perspicax—senses and perceptions, keen, accurate, and immediate, to bring in materials from all sensible things; Sagax—a central power of knowing what is what, and what it is worth, of choosing and rejecting, of judging; and finally, Efficax—the will and the way—the power to turn all the other three—capacity, perspicacity, sagacity, to account, in the performance of the thing in hand, and thus rendering back to the outer world, in a new and useful form, what you have received from it."

A REVIEW OF THE LONDON PHARMACOPŒIA AND DISPENSATORY OF 1654 AND A BRIEF RETROSPECT OF THE PERIOD.*

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It is not without some hesitation and misgiving that the venture is made of presenting to this society a subject not in the line of an endeavor to bring newer topics of a useful quality to your attention. Still it is not altogether amiss to look back at our profession in one of its past periods. Though for advancement, it is true, we would better judge and study the tree that is growing, and one that gives a promise of bearing a useful fruit, rather than fallen timber or a bush with seared leaves, yet it should be remembered that the fallen timber we step over and consider an obstruc-

*Read before the Therapeutic Club, Dec. 20, 1902.

tion in our path of progress in times past was rich in foliage and gave comfort to those who sought knowledge in its shade.

Why the middle of the seventeenth century should come to my mind is easily answered. It so happens that a book of that time, the *London Pharmacopœia,* is at hand, and it bears a relation to those times, as does our pharmocopœia to our day. The very translation itself (which the book is) brought forth much comment then; enough even to cause the medical men of those days to pour out many criticisms of the venture, and it gives us an insight into the existing feelings and the history of that time.

Though not even belonging to this period (the middle of the seventeenth century) it is interesting to note that the divisions of the branches of medicine were established nearly a hundred years previous. The priest, in the early ages, was the general practitioner, and the barbers, who wielded the knife for the comfort and ritual of the priests, became their servants and handy men, making the salves, dressing wounds and using the barber knife when it was deemed best. This intimate assistantship and association with the priest explains in a great measure the prominence given the barber, and why he obtained the dignity of being allied to incorporated bodies of surgeons.

Surgeons, as such, were established in 1512, but not until the reign of George the Second, in 1745, did they exist as separate from the barbers. It was brought about by its being well recognized that the barber, an inferior type of intellectuality, yet strong in numbers, hindered greatly the progress of their confrères, the surgeons.

The charter of the Royal College of Surgeons was granted in 1800.

The College of Physicians was founded in the early part of the sixteenth century (1518).

A license or diploma to practice physic before this was obtained from the Bishop of London and the Dean of St. Paul's, and it seems that a proper money consideration was the basis, though probably some form of recommendation as to one's qualification was taken into account. The Bishop of London clothed with such power, it followed that princes of the church in other sees issued the same favor in their dioceses.

"Upon the foundation of the Royal College of Physicians in London" (Wadd says) "its privileges and immunities were as ample as they could desire, as large as a king could grant and as lasting as subsequent acts of Parliament could make them. And,

in truth, there have been wise and sagacious politicians who have thought that the powers with which that learned body was invested were greater than any body corporate in a country famous for liberty should ever have been entrusted with."

The men who founded the College of Physicians were, many of them, scholars who had secured their degree or license from foreign universities, and one, Dr. Ferdinand de Victoria, was a foreigner by birth. Italy for the most part furnished the medical learning and intellect to start such a powerful school. Dr. Thomas Linacre was its first president. About the same time, also, the apothecary was recognized; his status was not very definite. The physician often compounded his own mixtures; and on the other hand the apothecary invented potions more or less secret, which he sold for various ailments and as charms, in fact, not unlike to-day, though in older times mysterious influences were claimed. When the College of Physicians was founded the right was granted to them to inspect the shops and drugs therein which the apothecary had for sale, and the compounder of drugs was compelled by law to dispense the prescription sent to him by the physician.

A few words should be said of astrology and astronomy. In previous ages astrology and a certain amount of necromancy and black art were more or less allied with the study of disease: mysterious incantations, secret powders prepared under solar and stellar influence and administered when the signs of the heavens corresponded—these were some of the superstitious phases which found credulous followers even among the more intelligent peoples. This, of course, was in a period when the teachings of Galen and Hippocrates were being neglected.

Astronomy, though, held sway much longer, and a certain amount of knowledge of the cyclic influence of the seasons and phases of planets was required for an entrance examination to the College of Physicians, for herbs and roots were richer in their active principles according to seasons, diurnal and nocturnal influences.

At this time astrology was fashionable, a pastime of the gentlemen and ladies of the court, and one's actions and journeyings were governed by the forecast of the horoscope. Crystal gazing, producing hypnotic spells, told many secrets. The physician of the more learned type of that day had put such fallacy aside; he nevertheless clung to tradition and did look to varying effects of his physic according to the map of the heavens. Such ideas were

rapidly dying out. Who can deny that even to-day among the ignorant laymen certain auspicious influences are not sought?

Even Nicholas Culpepper, who did much to break down these bars to progress, called himself an astrologer, but the name had less of the old meaning. He was rather an astronomer, in that he dosed his patients with drugs matching the star in ascendency, as he tells us in the preface to his book.

These brief remarks on the branches of medicine antedate the period we are considering, but they have enough bearing and historical interest to permit the brief mention.

To come closer to the middle of the seventeenth century and taking as the pivot the book under discussion, many strange and even almost amusing facts present themselves, as well as historical events in medicine. It was a time when medicine of the dark ages had ceased; though the physician and surgeon had taken up the science where Galen left off, still the period which was more of a direct forerunner of our own times had hardly begun.

The *Pharmacopœia* was in the hands of the College of Physicians, and their first edition was published in 1618, some years before this translation, for the original was, of course, in Latin. It was not only a pharmacopœia in the strict sense of the word, but also a dispensatory and a work on therapeutics then sanctioned by the honorable body. It evidently was closely and zealously guarded, to the uninitiated practically a sealed book, until 1649, or twenty years after the first standard *Pharmacopœia,* when Nicholas Culpepper brought himself into prominence and gave to the public *A Physicall Directory or a Translation of the London Dispensatory.*

If we stop to think of the jealousy, secrecy and mystery of the medical arts of those days in the hands of a few you can well imagine what a storm of indignation and vituperation such an act would excite— their very *vade mecum* laid bare in simple English, in the grasp of the ordinary licensed leech, even placed in the hands of the layman.

The following extract (*Mercurius Pragmaticus,* No. 21, 1649) of a tirade against the author will give you an example of the invective:

"This book," it says, "done (very filthily) into English by one "Nicholas Culpepper who commenced the several degrees of In- "dependency, Brownisme, Anabaptisme; admitted himself to John "Goodwin's schoole (of all ungodlinesse) in Coleman Street; "after that he turned seeker Manifestarian, and now he is arrived

"at the battlement of an absolute atheist and by two yeeres labour "hath Gallimawfred the apothecaries book into Nonsense mixing "every receipt therein with some scruples at least of rebellion or "atheisme besides the dangers of poysoning mens bodies. And "(to supply his drunkenness and leachery with a thirty shilling "reward) endeavoured to bring into obloquy the famous societies "of apothecaries and chirurgeons."

Another later reference (1652) to the author speaks of his home as "a Farm in Spittelfields where all the knickknacks of astrology are exposed to open sale."

Anger and disgust were no doubt the incentives for such criticism, for Culpepper's translation, we are told, was accurate and truthful, and he claims to hold in respect the members of the College of Physicians. Undoubtedly the closeness of their corporation may have prompted him, for though a learned man and one endeavoring to practice his profession with all honesty of purpose and method, yet he was one who took an interest in all worthy new movements and had an abhorrence for secrecy and mystery when so understood by him.

The above references to Culpepper's following false gods is not without interest to us. Anabaptism in England never revealed anything like the importance or fanaticism of that body under John of Leyden in Germany, with their subsequent licentiousness. John Goodwin, as non-conformer and preacher, may have found a follower in Culpepper. The preacher, if my memory serves me, was a frequenter of Gidding, that peaceful home of an early colony of Puritans of the purest type, and if welcome among them the finger of scorn cannot be pointed to him who follows such teachings. It would give the lie direct to the charge of drunkenness or atheism.

Though Culpepper's translation evoked so much criticism, the sale and popularity of the book was such that it carried it through five editions in the same number of years. The sixth edition was renamed the *Pharmacopœia Londinensis; or the London Dispensatory,* and on the title page we read: "Further adorned by the Studies and collections of the fellows now living of the said college."

Several additions are made, notes inserted by the translator, but always in brackets. The properties of the simple drugs are given, also the "Vertues and use of Compounds," signed "Nich. Culpepper, Student in Physic and astrology; living in Spittlefields near London."

It is a copy of the edition "Printed by Peter Cole, 1654" I describe, and may interest you by picking out here and there a few statements. Not unlike our publishers to-day, the first few pages after the title page are taken up by advertising the other works to be had at the printer's book shop, Peter Cole's, many of them works by the same author. Though the translation is the thought of the College, yet, either in italics or brackets Culpepper explains his meaning, or, rather, interpretations, of that learned body and says: "Although I did what I could throughout the whole Book to express myself in such language as might be understood by all and therefore avoided terms of art as much as might be, it being the task of the College to write only to the learned and the Nurslings of Appolo, but for myself to do my country good; which is the centre all my lines tend to and I desire should terminate in."

The general directions preceding the materia medica proper has an analysis of the virtues of the body of man, an endeavor, I presume, to explain according to the light of that day points of simple physiology as then understood. "The scope," he says, "of this discourse is to preserve in soundness vigor and acuity the mind and understanding of man, to strengthen and preserve the body in health, to teach a man to be an able coartificer or helper of nature, to withstand and expel diseases." We see many of the old methods of judging the pathology and physiological status of the body in these pages.

Virtue procreative is put first in order, "for nature regards not only conservation of itself but to beget its like and conserve its species," in other words, self-preservation and transmission. "The seat of this," he says, "is in the members of generation and is governed principally by the influence of Venus. It is augmented and increased by the strength of Venus, by her herbs, roots, trees and minerals. Observe the hours and medicine of Venus to fortify." This shows us a good example of the above reference to astronomy and astrology, the medicamenta being allied to a planet and the advice to administer according to the planet's phases. Vital, natural virtues and humors are displayed more or less at length. Melancholy, under the head of humors, might be mentioned. It evidently had another meaning than in our day, being an attribute of a man corresponding to our serious, logical, intellectual temperament. He defines it as "the sediment of blood, cold and dry in quality, fortifying the rententive faculty and memory, makes men sober, solid and staid, fit for study, staies

the unbridled toyes and fooleries of lustful blood, staies the wandering thoughts and reduceth them home to the centre. It is a grave counsellor to the whole body, its receptacle is the spleen and it is governed by Saturn."

If we should stop to analyze this definition it is strange to notice how many of our English expressions to-day, in judging such qualities in man, take their origin from that interpretation.

New ideas in those times seemed to have been less rapidly assimilated than now. It is somewhat surprising to note that Culpepper in his book clings to the older idea of the circulation of the blood. He speaks of the blood generated from meat (as food) as finding a receptacle in the veins and by them carried to various parts of the body.

William Harvey, twenty-five years before (1628) had given to the world his discovery of the circulation, and nearly two hundred years before (1485) Lanfranc had distinguished the difference between a wounded artery and a wounded vein. It is well worth mentioning to you that William Harvey read to the medical world his discovery of the circulation as one of the Lumley lecturers, which lectureship was founded in the latter part of the sixteenth century (1584) by Lord Lumley and Dr. Richard Caldwell, to this day called the Lumlein Lectures, and it is recorded of Harvey's lecture that "The College voted one hundred pounds out of their public stock to make the College room more ample and spacious for the better celebration of this most solemn lecture." In spite of the stir such new knowledge must have produced in the medical world of that day I find neither in the preambles nor text proper of Culpepper's translation any reference made to it.

Of the humors and virtues we need not say more; they are too far removed from our line of thought. A few of the general instructions, however, when and how to administer the doses, may be quoted. In true allopathic vein he says "Consider that all diseases are cured by their contraries, that all parts of the body are maintained by their likes." As to the selective use of drugs, "Have a care you use not such medicines to one part of your body which are appropriate to another, or you may make mad work. Use no strong medicines if weak will serve the turn; you had better take one too weak by half than too strong in the least." Drugs to stop intestinal discharge should, he says, be taken about an hour before meals, that they may have a chance to work before the food is taken in, but for vomiting, after meals, "that so they may close up the mouth of the stomach, and that is the reason

why usually men eat a little cheese after meat, because by its foulness and binding it closes the mouth of the stomach, thereby staying belching and vomiting." To-day we hear many ideas about the action of cheese, but I think you will admit this old one is a new one.

The instructions for taking purges are quite elaborate. Details of the proceedings give the rules for the preliminary diet, temperature of the room, and such; "After a mild dose you may go out the next day; but after a strong dose let there be a good fire in the chamber and stir not out of your chamber till the purge has done working, or not till the next day." If some of their potions were given to a delicate patient of our times he probably would be confined to the bed several days to recuperate.

The weights and measures correspond in general to our own; handful and half-handful are recognized, and a pugil was as much as you could take up with your thumb and two fingers. In speaking of the weights and measures of the older dispensatory many names strange to us are quoted: A "hemina," a measure containing nine ounces; a "sextary," eighteen ounces; "congie," six sextaries; a "libra," supposed to correspond to Galen's "μετρικὴν," twelve ounces, and the measure was made of a horn marked by twelve rings, each subdivision representing one ounce.

The catalogue of drugs is arranged according to the physical portions of plants—roots, barks, herbs, flowers, fruits and buds. Then the living creatures, metals, minerals and stones. This consumes only fifty-two pages, and considering their number it seems very little, yet for the most part the description is quite brief of each, and but little botanical differentiation is given, and their therapeutic purposes, though in some instances they are enumerated quite at length, on the other hand, they are often dismissed with a word or two. In the list of the "simples," that is one article or drug, as such, in counterdistinction to a combination, the dose is often omitted, in fact rarely mentioned. This is easy enough, possibly, to explain, for decoctions and infusions were the commonest preparations and would not require any very great accuracy. Take as an example asparagus, or "spirage;" its quality is given as "temperate, opening, they provoke urine and cleanse the reins and the bladder, being boiled in white wine and the wine drunk." Strength and amount are not stated; it was probably like the receipt in many a modern cook-book which usually ends by saying "Add flour to make a stiff batter, stir, flavor to suit and serve."

Our much used family country remedy, the onion, had two hundred and fifty years ago a valuable cure-all list, as to-day; it was written of them, "They breed but little nourishment, and that little is naught. They are bad meat, yet good physick for the phlegmatic people; they are opening and provoke urine and the terms if cold be the cause obstructing; bruised and outwardly applied, they cure the bitings of mad dogs, roasted and applied they help boils, raw they take the fire out of burns." If to this list there had been added that, carried in the hip or trousers' pocket, especially with a horse-chestnut, they would cure rheumatism, the list would be truly complete enough to please any old New England farmer.

The more I look over this ancient pharmacopœia the less surprised I am to see how the notions of those days have lasted and passed along as traditions across the span of time (many of them, it is true, dependent upon a good fundamental truth, though it may be empirical) and in our day analyzed on a more solid physiological basis. Others were empirically correct but uncouth, yet they still are found to cling, though among the uneducated for the most part. The number which have passed into oblivion is great. Most of our fruits were used then for similar purposes and action as to-day. Of the fig it is recorded, "Green figs are held to be of ill juice, but the best is, we are not much troubled with them in England. Dried figs help cough, cleanse the breast and infirmities of the lungs, shortness of wind, loose the belly, purge the reins, help inflammation of the liver and spleen; outwardly they dissolve swellings. Some say the continued eating of them makes men lousy."

These statements go better to show the temperament of the book and editor, but for the roots, fruits, herbs and buds, it is enough.

Picking out at random for comparison a few of the drugs which we still find retained in our dispensatory, some of which are even official, one or two examples will answer.

Barbanae, in U. S. P. called luppa or burdock, has attributed to it to-day a diuretic action, used in gout, rheumatism, cutaneous diseases, pulmonary catarrh, and a solvent for vesical calculi. In the past it was for hemorrhages from the lung, locally applied with salt for bites, promoted renal secretion, expelled wind and eased pains of the teeth.

In contrast, colchicum of to-day and its value is dismissed with

the remark, "The roots are held to be harmful to the stomach therefore I let them alone."

Galanga, a ginger-like root, is still in use, though not officinal; its infusion is for flatulency; it is a gastric stimulant now; the older authority attributes the same action, but in addition adds "the smell of it strengthens the brain, relieves weak hearts, takes away windiness of the womb, heats the reins and provokes lust."

This is one of the few instances where we find the dose given, a half a drachm of the root.

Glycyrrhize has properties not unlike those attributed to it to-day. One strange feature is interesting. It was claimed that if beaten into a powder and put into the eye it was a special remedy for a pin and a web. The meaning of these words is the following: A pin is a caligo, or cloudy spot on the cornea; a web is what is known now as a ptyregium, sometimes spoken of as web-eye.

Agrimonia, agrimony, is one of the most ancient drugs coming down to us from the Greeks. In Culpepper's time it had the cognomen "Galen's Eupatorium," now used as an astringent in gargles or for ulcers, chronic fluxes of bowels, bladder or vagina, passive hemorrhage. In the past the same claims were made, with the addition, "It amends infirmities of the liver, and helps such as piss blood."

Rhubarb, althaea, marsh-mellow, and quite a number of others could be culled out of the catalogue, which are still mentioned in our dispensatory, in some cases even officinal.

Of the animal extracts of those days you will probably be entertained, even if not instructed, especially as the editor looks upon them with scorn and sums up their enumeration with the following remark: "Then the College acquaints you with more wonders, that there are certain living creatures called bees, wood-lice, silk-worms, toads, grasshoppers, little puppy dogs, swallows, snails, sparrows and many others (I do not copy all). A part of this crew of cattle and some others which they have been pleased to learn, may be made beneficial to your sick bodies. Be pleased to understand that bees, being burnt to ashes and a lye made with the ashes, trimly deck a bald head being washed with it." So you see hair restorers were being thought of even then.

"Snails with shells on their backs, being first washed from the dirt, then the shells broken, and they boiled in spring water but not scummed at all, for the skum will sink in itself, and the water drunk, is a most admirable remedy for consumption. And here,

by the way, I cannot but admire at the simplicity of most physicians who prescribe that the snails ought to be purged from their slime either with salt or bran before they be used which, if you do, will take away their virtue, for the reason why they cure consumption is that man being made of the slime of the earth, a slimy substance recovers him when he is wasted."

He refers to the excrements of animals suggested by the college, and says they are recorded as the College of Physicians left them, and ends up with the satirical remark, "For impose them they could not, for want of authority. Alack! alack! the king is dead! and the College of Physicians want power to impose the truth upon men."

The apothecaries under control of the college were ordered to keep in their shops parts of animals. The list takes up nearly a page, and is ridiculous; one might think Rabelais had devised it. For instance, the skull of a man killed by violent death, a cock's comb, tooth of a boar, liver of a wolf, human calculus, jaw of a pike, piece of a mummy, crab's eyes, omentum of a lamb, inner skin of a chicken's gizzard, cobwebs, rennet of a lamb, a hare, a calf, and so on *ad infinitum*.

Culpepper adds a note to this list saying they should have put in the rennet of an ass, to make a medicine for their addled brains; the next time they alter their dispensatory let them go and take counsel of the butchers. Truly these would have knocked down such an error like an ox, and told them no creature had rennets but such as sucked.

"That small triangular bone in the skull of a man called os triqutrium, so absolutely cures the falling sickness that it will never come again, (saith Paracelsus)." The os triqutrium is, I believe, a small wormian bone found in the cranial sutures.

The liver of a frog, dried and eaten, helps quartan agues, or as the vulgar call them, third day agues.

Burnt goat or sheep bladders taken internally help diabetes or continual pissing.

Even human fat was considered good for annointing wasting limbs. The oyster, as to-day, reduces a swelling. Live animals, such as swallows, being macerated with pestle and mortar, mixed with many ingredients, soaked in white wine, strained and drank, I believe, was to improve the eyesight and clear the brain (but at this moment I cannot find the paragraph). Many herbs, stones and substances were worn as charms, which we see done even in our day.

The preparations I have not gone into with their definitions but lohoch or eclegmata should be mentioned. The term to-day is "a loch," an electuary, lambative or lincture (Webster). Culpepper defines the term "Because," as he says, "this word also is understood by so few." The word "lohoch" is an Arabic word, called in Greek ἔχλεγμας, in Latin *linctus,* and signifies a thing to be licked. Thicker than a syrup but not so thick as an electuary it was invented against roughness of the wind pipe, of chest coughs and colds. Manner of reception is with a *Liquoris* stick bruised at the end to take up same and retain it in the mouth.

Wines, syrups, electuaries, pills, oils, troches, and all compounds, are given. If the foregoing examples represent to you an idea of the simples, I will leave it to your imagination to picture the compounds. Listen to one of them:

"Spiritus Lavandulæ compositus. The College instructs the apothecary accordingly. Take lavender flowers one gallon, to which pour three gallons of the best spirit of wine; let them stand together in the sun six days, then distill them with an alembic with its refrigeratory; then he is to take flowers of sage, rosemary and bettany, each a handful, the flowers of bugloss lilies of the valley, cowslips, of each two handfuls; let the flowers be newly and seasonably gathered, infused in one gallon of best spirit of wine and mingled with the foregoing spirits of lavender flower, adding the leaves of bawn, feather-few and orange tree; fresh gathered the flowers, and bay-berries, of each one ounce after convenient digestion distill it again. Then eleven more articles are added, allowed to digest for six weeks, then strained and filtered, then nine more ingredients, mostly spices, are to be tied in a bag and to be hung in the aforesaid spirits. This receipt I give you in an abbreviated form according to a certain Matthias." Culpepper's comments on such a lengthy, complicated and indefinite lay-out are quite amusing. To quote him he says: "Although I could have easily been brought to believe that the College never intended the Company of Apothecaries any good, yet before I read this receipt I could not conceive they willingly intended to impose impossibilities upon them." For he shows up the impossibility of collecting many of these plants and flowers fresh, as they bloom in different seasons, to say nothing of obtaining in England fresh oranges and blossoms; likewise he says the instructions for distillation are too indefinite for any man to carry them out properly, and he ends up the remark, "If they can make a shift to make it, which is a task almost if not altogether as hard

as to spit over St. Paul's, how or which way the virtues of it would countervail the one-half of the charge and cost to leave the pains and trouble out. But Dr. Ignoramus followed Matthias and never considered he lived in a different climate."

I fear these foregoing fragments seem disjointed to you. It is because I could not venture to ask your time to listen to any consecutive review of the work taken up by headings classified either under a botanical or therapeutic division. It was my intention to draw more comparison between the old drugs of that time and those of our day, but it seemed far too complicated to attempt to do it justice in reasonable space. There has come to my hand a great deal more material allied to the therapeutics and medicine of this middle seventeenth century, and I would have liked to incorporate it. Some of it we would look upon as humorous and grotesque, but on the other hand, many of the facts were sign-posts which have led us to where we stand now. A sketch of the translator of the work could well have been added, and is recorded in history, but suffice it to state he was a man of parts, educated at Oxford, a soldier in the Parliamentary Wars, wounded in battle by a bullet in the thorax, a doctor of physic in London, enjoyed a high reputation with considerable practice, and did much charity, helping the poor and needy sick, by whom he was greatly beloved, a prolific writer. After his death his numerous manuscripts were collected and published. He died in his thirty-sixth year, just before this book was printed. In the preamble to the reader he concludes:

"I love well and am as willing to help all ingenuous men, "though their parts be never so weak, but I hate pride in whom-"soever I find it. I bid thee farewell for this time.

"NICH. CULPEPPER.

"January 2d, 1653."

MEMORIAL ADDRESS ON THE LATE SAMUEL SMITH PURPLE, M.D.

Delivered before the New York Academy of Medicine, May 16th, 1901.

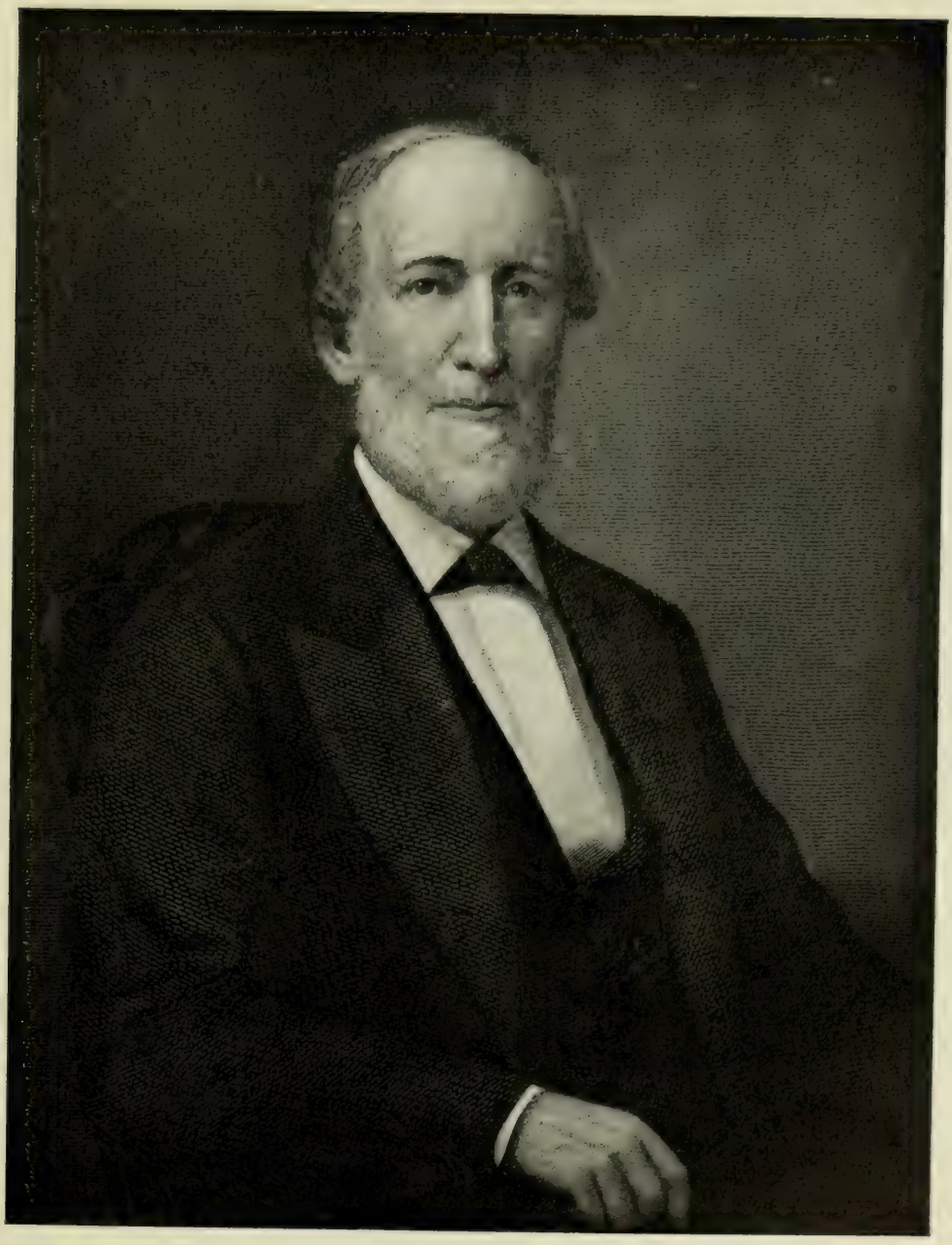
By STEPHEN SMITH, M.D., LL.D.,
New York City.

Mr. President and Fellows:

Samuel Smith Purple was born on the 24th day of June, 1822, at Lebanon, Madison County, N. Y., and died on the 29th day of September, 1900, at his residence, 36 West Twenty-second Street, in the City of New York. His life extended over a period of seventy-eight years, three months and five days, or the last three-fourths of the nineteenth century.

Dr. Purple's ancestry was English, both on the paternal and maternal side. Christopher Purple (1580-1605) came to America from the County of Essex, England, and from him descended the Purple families of Connecticut. Dr. Purple was the seventh in descent from Edward Purple, who settled in Haddam, Conn., in 1674. His maternal grandfather, Dr. James Sheffield, of Earlville, N. Y., was also of English descent.

Dr. Purple began his life under conditions which would of necessity tend to develop a strong and self-reliant character. His father, Lyman Smith Purple, and his mother, Minerva Sheffield, belonged to the class of adventurous pioneers who emigrated from New England to Central New York and converted a wilderness into habitable homes. His business was that of tanner and shoemaker, two trades that were very naturally united in one in the new settlements. To this trade the subject of our sketch was rigorously bred, with only such opportunity for an education as the public school afforded. Every one familiar with the common school of the rural districts at that period can appreciate the advantages which he had for laying the foundations of a successful professional career. The bare rudiments of the primary branches alone were taught and the methods of instruction were so imperfect that the student was practically left to himself. After the age of thirteen young Purple only attended the school in the winter, and at sixteen his opportunities for an education ceased altogether, for he was compelled to devote himself wholly to the business of his father. It appears from some notes which he made of his boyhood that it was devoted to the usual sports of children of his age, hunting and fishing being his favorite employ-



SAMUEL SMITH PURPLE, M.D.
1822-1900.

ments, which led to the remark of the members of the family that "Sam would never be good for anything else." It is evident now that he was unconsciously making preparation, physically and mentally, for the terrible struggle which awaited him at the outset of his professional career.

The failure to secure a thorough education in his youth was a source of profound regret to him in his later life and greatly embarrassed him in his subsequent work in the field of medical, historical and genealogical literature.

In 1836 the father removed from Lebanon to Earlville, Chenango County, New York, where he pursued the business of manufacturer and dealer in shoes until his death in 1839. With this last event new responsibilities devolved upon Samuel, the eldest son. At the age of seventeen he had to assume the charge of the business and the support of the family, now in reduced circumstances. That the task was difficult is apparent from the fact that it required three years of unremitting application of all his energies to relieve the estate of debt and secure for his mother a very humble home in the village.

But his thoughts were not altogether confined to his business during this trying period, for we learn that he not only conceived the idea of studying medicine, but actually began reading such books as were accessible to him. He was probably prompted to undertake this study through contact with his grandfather, Dr. James Sheffield, and a relative, Dr. W. D. Purple, of a neighboring county. He obtained books from the village physician, Dr. David Ransom and devoted every leisure moment to their study. His habit was to rise at four o'clock in the morning and to study until seven o'clock, when he went to his shop and during the day studied, while working on the bench, with his book placed in a rack before him. He carried on his studies in this manner for a long period without the knowledge of his family, and it was only when he engaged in a discussion on a medical subject with his grandfather, Dr. Sheffield, and was rebuked by his mother for presuming to contradict the old gentleman, that he announced that he had been a student of medicine for a long period. She used to relate the circumstance of finding a skeleton in an old sofa in his room, where he studied it unseen, and the horror its presence in the house created until she compelled its removal.

In 1842, at the age of twenty years, he had so far succeeded in his father's business that he prepared to attend a course of lectures in a medical college. Geneva Medical College then offered

the best opportunities for a student in his financial straits. Dr. Ransom secured for him, through the Censors of the State Medical Society, a free course in that college. To acquire the necessary means of support during the term he worked on a farm for wages during the months of June, July, August and September, and on the first of October went to Geneva, having only sufficient means for his support during the term by the exercise of the most rigid economy.

Geneva Medical College was at that time one of the most reputable schools in the country. It was the legitimate successor of the Western College of Physicians and Surgeons, Fairfield, Herkimer County, New York. Its faculty contained some of the most eminent teachers in the country. Its professor of chemistry was James Hadley, from whom descended the Hadleys of Yale. Dr. Spencer, one of the most eminent physicians of that day, taught medicine; Dr. Coventry was a painstaking lecturer on obstetrics; Dr. Frank H. Hamilton gave brilliant lectures on surgery; Dr. Webster, lately of Philadelphia, taught anatomy; Lee, of New York, gave the course on materia medica. The value of this course of lectures to a student who had been thus far his own instructor consisted in its power to systematize his studies and teach him how to study. In this respect the term at Geneva was of great value to the student Purple and was regarded by him as the beginning of his real course in medicine.

During the following summer he pursued his trade and continued his medical studies with greater zeal and with far greater success than previously. Through the agency of his relative, Dr. W. D. Purple, a member of the State Board of Censors of the State Medical Society, he secured a free course of lectures in the medical department of the University of the City of New York, which had an available beneficiary fund. In the autumn of 1843, with only money sufficient to sustain him through the term, he came to New York and entered the University Medical College. This college had been in existence but three years, having been organized in 1841. At its head was Dr. Valentine Mott, acknowledged the foremost surgeon of the world, and in its faculty we find the names of John W. Draper, Granville Sharp Patterson, Martin Payne and others of equal repute at that time. The inspiration which he caught from the teachings of these eminent professors remained a lasting heritage. He often spoke of them individually and always with expressions of gratitude and even reverence.

He graduated at the close of the term in March, 1844, and returned to his home in Earlville. Among his early friends in the village was a theological student who became the pastor of the Laight Street Baptist Church of this city. While the young medical student was attending lectures at the University Medical College he renewed his acquaintance with his clerical friend, the Rev. William W. Everts, and the question of his future location in practice was discussed and many inducements to locate in New York were advanced. At first he shrank from what seemed to him an undertaking doomed in the very nature of the conditions to a most disastrous failure. His highest ambition had been to become a respectable practitioner in a country community where his limited means would be sufficient for his support. But when in the quiet of his mother's home he calmly considered the two phases of professional life spread out before him, the country life with competency but no future, and the city life with its early struggle and unlimited opportunities for development, he calmly but resolutely chose the latter and prepared for the struggle.

In this incident in the life of young Purple, as in the same incident in each of our own lives, we find the true and supreme test of character. He had come to the parting of the ways. On the one hand was the quiet and uneventful life of the country practitioner, with its competence, its good citizenship and universal esteem, but devoid of professional associations and the stimulus to high attainments and possible preferment. On the other hand was the life of the New York City physician, with its years of privation and toil in the tenement houses and dispensaries, its fierce conflicts for professional advancement, but with its vast opportunities for improvement, its constant incentives to higher achievements and the possibilities of ultimately winning an honorable position in the profession. It is, indeed, true that many who have wealth and friends decide to try their fortunes in the city, with the mental reservation that, failing, they will escape to the country with the prestige of having been once located in the city. And it is an interesting reminiscence of the older physician to recall the number of young men of this class who began their career in this city as his contemporaries but whose names have long since disappeared from the Medical Directory. But far different is it when the question of location in the country or city confronts the ambitious young graduate who has not even the means of transportation to his destination, much less of support when he arrives there. But such was the momentous problem which our

graduate had to solve. Tough as that problem was he grappled it with the energy of a great and self-reliant character. All his immediate interests, coupled with the persuasion of his family dependent upon his immediate success and of his friends, seemed to demand imperatively that he should locate in a country town. During several weeks he studied the situation, calmly and judicially weighing the arguments which arose in his own mind or were presented by his friends. The pivotal question with him was "What shall be my future?" He had an honorable ambition to gain a professional reputation, and to do so he must have adequate opportunities. These opportunities could only be secured in the city. He counted the cost and determined to locate in New York.

Preparing for his residence in this city young Purple found he possessed a poor wardrobe and $25 in money. In order to save as much as possible of his scanty means he engaged as a laborer on a canal boat part of the distance and arrived in the city in May, 1844, with $17.50 in hand with which to begin the "fight for life." He took a room on the second floor of a house in Hudson street, near Canal, and in the immediate vicinity of his Earlville friend, Rev. Mr. Everts, to whom he was greatly indebted for many substantial favors and constant encouragement. For the purpose of occupying his leisure hours with clinical work as well as to relieve the tedium of the days, weeks and months of waiting for business which was to be his lot, he entered the service of the old Marion Street Maternity, and subsequently he obtained an appointment in the New York Dispensary in Centre street. Thus he passed his first, second and third years, each closing with a deficit in his finances, though he economized to the extent of scarcely purchasing new clothes. The fourth year was marked by a decided gain in the quality of his patients and a much better income, and the fifth year he was not only able to place himself on a much better footing by having his own house, to which he removed his mother, but he liquidated his debts and began life quite independently.

During my long and intimate acquaintance with Dr. Purple he seldom alluded to his trials during this probationary period, apparently shrinking from even the memory of them. But from time to time I learned many of the details of the obstacles which confronted him and the heroic struggle which he made to overcome them. He had anticipated hard work and privations, and these he did not fear, for they had been the conditions in his youth with which he was perfectly familiar. Subsequent events, how-

ever, prove that while he justly estimated his power of endurance under the most rigorous circumstances he had no real conception of the terrible ordeal that awaited him. Some of us can more or less correctly appreciate the indomitable courage it required to fight this battle to a successful issue.

It would be well if we could detail all the pathetic incidents of the first five years of our friend's professional career, for only in that review can we estimate at its true value the innate force of his character; such a recital would also impart a lesson of the first importance to the graduate of to-day, for it would prove in a striking manner that in our profession, as in every department of business, the most successful men in the long run are those who in early life are trained in the school of bitter experience to practice all the arts of self-reliance and self-help. But we must forbear opening these pages of his life history, for to him they were too sacred to be revealed even to his most intimate friends. In a few notes which he left he alludes to these early years, and thus puts his seal of disapproval upon any revelations of his experiences during that period: "The struggles and trials through which I passed during the first three or four years will ever remain a secret in my bosom. If it had not been for one or two warm friends I could not have succeeded in the task I had undertaken. It was not until five years had elapsed that I was enabled to pay my expenses and liquidate the obligations incurred up to that time."

The professional life of Dr. Purple was altogether uneventful. Naturally diffident and retiring he sought no position in the hospitals or medical schools of the city, but quietly devoted himself to his practice and bibliographical pursuits. He was elected a member of the Pathological Society in 1846 and was a constituent member of the Academy of Medicine, which he aided in organizing in 1847. He also took a deep interest in the organization and management of the Society for the Relief of the Widows and Orphans of Medical Men. An event of much importance to him occurred during these five years of struggle, for it initiated the work to which he subsequently devoted so much of his time and means. While attending lectures at Geneva he became slightly acquainted with Professor Charles A. Lee, of New York, then Professor of Materia Medica in that college. In 1845 Dr. Lee became editor of the *New York Journal of Medicine* on the death of its founder, Dr. Samuel Forry, and as his duties connected with his professorships in country colleges required his absence

from the city several months he sought the assistance of Dr. Purple. So well did the latter perform the duties of this responsible position that when Dr. Lee resigned the management of the *Journal* in May, 1848, Dr. Purple was chosen by the publisher as his successor. He continued to manage the *Journal* until 1858, when he retired to devote himself more thoroughly to his practice and other pursuits.

Dr. Purple's contributions to medical literature were few in number and were for the most part made during his connection with the *Journal.* His first paper appeared in the *New York Journal of Medicine* of March, 1846, and is entitled "Menstruation; Its True Nature and Office, With a Review of the Evidence of Its Vesicular Origin, With Illustrative Cases." The object of the author was to contribute the results of his studies and investigations, through the aid of the coroner's office, to the controversy then going on as to the function of menstruation and the diagnostic value of the corpus luteum as to the occurrence of conception. The facts which he contributed from his own studies of cases obtained from the Coroner are more convincing than those gathered from other sources. At the close of the paper he intimates that he has formed opinions in regard to the corpus luteum which he may make public. Accordingly, in the November number of the *Journal,* 1846, he published a very elaborate paper entitled "Corpus Luteum; Its Value as Evidence of Conception, and Its Relations to Legal Medicine, With the Characteristics of the True and False. Being an Attempt to Reconcile the Conflicting Opinions of Writers by the Recent Discoveries in the Physiology of the Ovaries." The medical literature of that period contained many controversial articles on that subject by eminent writers at home and abroad, but none show a larger grasp of the subject and few equal it in literary style and argumentative force.

When it is remembered that these two elaborate articles appeared during the second year of his settlement, while he was laboring under innumerable embarrassments, we can better appreciate the sturdy character and indomitable will of its author. And perhaps what is more surprising in view of his limited education and his entire lack of training in composition is the chaste and classical language which he employed and the logical presentation of facts.

During the four succeeding years he devoted himself assiduously to his practice and to his editorial duties. The *Journal* showed evidence on every page of his personal supervision, and

the high order of the original papers showed a wide acquaintance of the editor with the best writers of that period.

The third paper of our author appeared in the *Journal* of July, 1850, and is entitled "A Literary, Historical and Practical Sketch of Acrania, 'Brainless' or Pseudencephalus Monsters." The paper is illustrated by three well-executed engravings of the head of a monster of this type met with in his practice. This paper was written in the same clear, classical style as the preceding papers and shows the same evidences of extensive research of medical literature for illustrative facts.

In 1853 Dr. Purple issued a pamphlet entitled "Contributions to the Practice of Midwifery, Forensic Medicine, Physiology and Pathology, With Ilustrations." The several subjects treated are illustrated by cases occurring in his own practice or to which he had been called in consultation by neighboring physicians. It was an original paper of merit and at that time attracted considerable attention. A feature of the paper which interests us is the evident tendency of the author to devote himself to the study of the diseases of women. This evidence was strengthened by an announcment that a popular English work on the "Diseases of Women" would be edited by Dr. Purple and published by the firm of Wood Brothers. The projected publication never matured.

In 1855 appeared a paper in the *Journal* entitled "Statistics of Injuries of the Heart: Observations on Wounds of the Heart and Their Relations to Forensic Medicine, With a Table of Forty-two Recorded Cases." The occasion of his writing this paper was the death of a notorious pugilist by a pistol-shot wound of the heart which he survived several days. Much doubt was entertained as to the implication of the heart in the wound, owing to the survival of the patient for so long a period, but the autopsy proved that the ball penetrated the walls of the heart. The paper shows great care in its discussion of the questions then at issue, and the conclusions are fortified by a judicious use of the large number of cases collected. The influence of the paper upon surgical opinion was very great, for it was received as authoritative.

In the same year he published in the *Journal* a description of "A New Trephine, With Remarks Upon Its Construction" and accompanied by an illustration. He states that "Several years since, owing to difficulties that arose in the operative management of a case of severe and extensive injury of the head, at-

tended with depression and extravasation of blood under the cranium, in a near relative, I was led to engage in a series of experiments which at last resulted in the construction of the instrument represented." The mechanism of the instrument consists of the ordinary crown of a trephine, attached at right angles to a straight handle having a hinge-joint; a centre pin with a sliding handle, which can be moved up or down, enabled the operator to make more or less pressure upon the crown with his left hand, as the the occasion requires. He claimed the following advantages for his instrument, *viz.*, (1) in the mode of applying the motive power; (2) in the freedom and ease of working it; (3) in its uniformity of action; and above all (4) in the less consequent liability of injuring the brain and its covering. The instrument is a very ingenious device, and in practice accomplishes all the inventor claims for it, but it never came into even limited use by surgeons and has been relegated to the museum of surgical curios.

Dr. Purple also invented an instrument designed to enable the operator to rupture a cyst or detach an adenoid growth located deeply in the pharynx but within reach of the end of the index finger. The instrument resembled the artificial finger nail of Darby, Browne, Lauterbach and others.

The seven papers above reviewed were written during the first decade of Dr. Purple's career, and such was their general excellence that they established his reputation as a medical writer of high order. But circumstances now diverted him from the path along which he was advancing so successfully and he never wrote another scientific medical paper. His connection with the *Journal* had brought him into familiar relations with many of the leading physicians of the city. The one who exerted the greatest influence upon him was Professor John B. Beck, of the College of Physicians and Surgeons. Dr. Beck was a very scholarly man and had a large and valuable library, which he had been many years perfecting, especially in the department of rare medical pamphlets. Commenting upon the importance of collecting and preserving the early medical literature of the country, much of which was originally printed in pamphlet form, he concluded by urging the young editor to avail himself of the opportunity which his position afforded him of securing and preserving every early publication obtainable. At the same time he gave him a large number of pamphlets, which really formed the nucleus of the enormous collection which he subsequently made. These suggestions of Pro-

fessor Beck stimulated into the greatest activity the latent passion for bibliography, which was finally to absorb so much of the time and means of his young friend.

From this time onward his business satisfactorily increased, both in quantity and quality, and though he never attained to a large and lucrative practice, his income satisfied every ambition except the single one of providing all the means he craved for the purchase of books. But when the opportunity offered of securing rare works he did not let it pass on account of a momentary want of money. His credit was good with all classes of book dealers and with most of the purveyors of old books he had standing orders for the purchase of rare editions. For the period of half a century he maintained a close personal acquaintance with all dealers in old books, and no quaint old volume in the second-hand book stores or in the auction rooms escaped his careful scrutiny. At first his attention was especially directed to rare medical books and pamphlets, but constant association with the dealers in old books drew his attention to other inviting fields of bibliographical research. He was thus led to the study of American historical literature, and his collection of rare books and pamphlets relating to the early history of New York was very valuable. It very naturally happened that these investigations into the history of the early families drew his attention to the important and enticing department of genealogical research. To these subjects he finally devoted a large amount of his leisure time, and his collection of books and pamphlets relating thereto was probably not surpassed by any private library in this country. He was one of the active promoters of the Genealogical Society of this city and was one of its officers from the time of its organization. As a member of its publication committee he was specially interested in the publication of the organ of the Society *The New York Genealogical and Biographical Record*, to the pages of which he contributed much valuable matter.

Dr. Henry R. Stiles, who was associated with Dr. Purple for many years in the editorship of the *Genealogical and Biographical Record*, in his sketch of his associate makes the following allusion to his relations to the Genealogical Society: "Singular modesty and reticence as to himself, his labors and plans, concealed from his friends and associates, both in the profession and in our society, the value and importance of his life work. It is only now, when death has removed him from the spheres of his activity, that we fully appreciate the value of what he has done.

We remember his quiet ways, his few but always helpful words, his gentle measured speech, and the interest that spoke so plainly from his eyes, as we took sweet counsel together in our society and committee meetings; and we are thankful to have been so long permitted the companionship and friendship of so true a man and so wise a counsellor."

The most important event in the professional life of Dr. Purple was his election to the presidency of the New York Academy of Medicine. This event occurred on the election of officers for the year 1875, a quarter of a century after his settlement. It was an honor which he greatly prized and which he richly deserved. He had labored diligently to advance the best interests of the Academy from the outset and had contributed freely his time, his influence and whatever his slender means would permit to secure for it a library and a permanent home. In his inaugural address, delivered January 21, 1875, he dwelt feelingly and eloquently upon these two themes, which were then agitating the members of the Academy. He said: "It requires no argument here to show the necessity or value of a great reference medical library, located in this city. * * * * The time has arrived in which it is imperatively demanded." The permanent home of the Academy which was pictured in his mind he described as "a hall where the whole profession may meet on common ground—one which shall be the recognized medical centre—within which the various medical organizations of the city may have ample accommodations for holding their meetings; where museums and libraries may be gathered and where every department of medical study and investigation may find accommodation. * * * * It is in * * * the possession of a home that many of the better and brighter hopes of the profession are centred. In it we see the facilities for a greater centralization of the power and influence of medical men in all matters which appertain to medical science and also to the health interests of the public at large; may it not lead to a union of the scattered resources and medical organizations of the city? * * * This Academy must eventually have a building not less imposing in its appearance than similar structures in the metropolis and adequate in all its appointments to the growing wants and future exigencies of the profession." Fortunately he lived to see the hopes and wishes that he entertained finally and fully realized.

He was honored with an election to the presidency of the Academy a second time, and on January 18, 1877, delivered his

inaugural address. He chose for his subject "Medical Libraries Association to establish medical libraries, he narrates the discuss intelligently, and in it, after sketching the efforts of the Medical Society of New York, the New York Hospital and the Journal Association to establish medical libraries, he narrates the discovery which he made of the little brochure by Dr. Samuel Bard, entitled "An Inquiry Into the Nature and Cure of the Angina Suffocativa, or Sore Throat Distemper, As It Is Commonly Called by the Inhabitants of This City and Colony," printed in 1771. He states that he "rescued it from the press-box of a second-hand paper dealer in this city *in transitu* to the maw of a paper mill." On examining this pamphlet he became satisfied that in his description of the epidemic of 1770, in this city, Dr. Bard had very accurately and graphically described the disease now known as diphtheria. He quotes at great length from the pamphlet to prove that the clinical features of the "Sore Throat Distemper" of 1770 in this city were identical with the modern diphtheria. He concluded his address with the following appeal: "Will any fellow of this Academy from this time forward despise the day of small things, or consign to collectors of rags or paper stock the pamphlets or old editions of medical works which he may weed from his library or garret? Will not all bear in constant remembrance that here, in this our own medical home, will be gratefully received and carefully treasured every tract, pamphlet, book, manuscript, engraving, portrait, small or great, which may be donated?"

During Dr. Purple's presidency of four years the Academy made rapid progress, both in creating the great reference library that he so strenuously urged in his inaugural, and equally in securing a permanent home of its own. His contributions to both objects were of vital importance. To the library he gave that priceless treasure *the serial medical literature of this country.* What that collection cost him of time, money and patient toil no one can have the remotest conception. For more than a quarter of a century he ransacked every collection of old pamphlets accessible to him in this and other cities. Many were the occasions when he despaired of completing sets, but by correspondence with dealers in old books, with the older physicians and by advertising in medical periodicals, offering at the same time suitable payment, he succeeded in completing full sets of all of the medical periodicals ever published in this country. From the first his ultimate purpose seemed to be, though not expressed in words, to have the collection form part of the projected reference library

of the Academy. This purpose was carried out in part when he donated upwards of 5,000 volumes of American medical journals to the library of the Academy. Though the Academy already had a considerable collection of miscellaneous medical works, it is generally recognized that the addition of Dr. Purple's contribution of the complete serial medical literature of this country laid the foundations for a reference library on which the present magnificent superstructure is being reared.

Dr. Purple's contribution to the building fund of the Academy marked an era in the struggle of its Ways and Means Committee to secure the money necessary to the purchase of a permanent home. This contribution was made through him by the widow of the late Dr. Alexander E. Hosack and amounted to the sum of $75,000. This money would never have been given to the Academy except through the good offices which he rendered to Dr. and Mrs. Hosack. During one of my latest conversations with him Dr. Purple detailed at length the circumstances attending the negotiations which resulted in the donation of that magnificent sum to the building fund of the Academy. It is sufficient for the purposes of this sketch to state that so intense was Dr. Hosack's antipathy to certain leading members of the Academy when Dr. Purple first approached him on the subject of contributing to the building fund that he resented the suggestion. But Dr. Purple persevered, and by his kindly and friendly interest in Dr. Hosack and his wife so won their confidence that after her husband's death Mrs. Hosack notified Dr. Purple that in compliance with Dr. Hosack's expressed intention and in accordance with her own purpose she was prepared to give the Academy the munificent sum of $75,000. Though there was a considerable building fund at that time it was not sufficient to determine, except prospectively, the certainty of a permanent home for the Academy in the immediate future. It may fairly be claimed that Dr. Purple's contributions to the library and to the building fund were in their results of the nature of foundations.

After his retirement from the presidency of the Academy Dr. Purple devoted himself more exclusively to the task of perfecting his collection of medical, historical and genealogical literature. His writings, which were very limited, were confined for the most part to notes or short papers on medical and genealogical subjects. He has been for several years collecting medical portraits, which he contemplated publishing in quarto form with brief biographical sketches, but he left only the collection without any text. These

prints are valuable and ought to be published in the form which he designed, both for their value and as a fitting tribute to his memory.

During his last few years Dr. Purple lived a very retired life, rarely appearing at the meetings of the Academy or in any society. The first evidence of an approaching termination of his life occurred in 1899, when he had a hemorrhage into the posterior chamber of the eye, which permanently destroyed its sight. He recognized the significance of this symptom, but looked forward with calm resignation to the inevitable issue. Subsequent to this occurrence it was discovered that he was suffering from Bright's disease in an advanced stage, and the final termination of his life was due to its complications.

Dr. Purple's personality was that of a quiet, reserved gentleman; fastidious in his dress; dignified but affable in his manners; with a kindly benevolent expression of countenance that indicated a genial, happy temperament and an aversion for all forms of contention and controversy. This feature of his character was illustrated in many of the events of his life. A controversy having arisen in the church of which he was a member he withdrew from it and never joined another. He manifested no interest in the current political events of the country or city, and scrupulously shunned all contact with societies where he might be led into partizanship. The only instance where he manifested any considerable personal feeling was when the issues raised by the discussion of the code of ethics led to divisions in the profession in this State. He was naturally intensely devoted to the traditions of the profession, not from any narrow prejudice, but rather owing to his conception of the dignity and eminence of the senior medical men, who in the early days of the Academy had struggled to organize the profession of the city to resist the progress of charlatanry. In his daily life Dr. Purple was a model of gentleness, kindness and benevolence. Though never married he maintained a home, where his mother, brother and his brother's widow and children lived in the enjoyment of domestic peace and happiness.

Mr. President: There will be few more occasions like this in the history of the Academy, for Dr. Purple was nearly the last surviving founder. How can the memory of these pioneers best be perpetuated is a question which should receive the most considerate thought. Your committee on a memorial have been deeply impressed with the belief that testimonials of respect and grati-

tude for the beneficent work of departed Fellows should have a visible and tangible form which may be seen and read by all men. To this end we have the satisfaction of presenting to the Academy two memorials of our late Fellow and former president.

The first memorial is a bronze tablet, placed at the entrance of the library in Woerrishofer Hall. It seemed to us a peculiarly fitting act on the part of the Academy to place this tablet at the entrance to and exit from the Library where the present and future student might for all time be informed to whom he is largely indebted for the inestimable privilege of being able to perfect his knowledge in every branch of the medical sciences at the very fountains of medical literature. The inscription on the tablet is as follows:

SAMUEL SMITH PURPLE, M.D.

BORN JUNE 24, 1822—DIED SEPTEMBER 29, 1900
FOUNDER OF THE LIBRARY OF THE
NEW YORK ACADEMY OF MEDICINE
TO WHICH HE GAVE LARGE AND VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS.
A PRESIDENT OF THE ACADEMY AND AN EARNEST
AND SUCCESSFUL WORKER IN ITS INTERESTS.
THIS TABLET IS ERECTED TO COMMEMORATE
HIS MANY VIRTUES AND RARE USEFULNESS.

The second memorial is his full-sized portrait for which the Academy is indebted to the generosity of Mrs. Edwin R. Purple. Everyone will recognize how singularly accurate this painting is in the portraiture of its subject, and how perfect it is in every detail where the highest degree of art is required. It will prove a valuable addition to the growing and already notable collection of portraits of eminent members of the Academy and as a work of art will compare favorably with the best paintings of Huntington, Rossiter Johnson and others, which adorn the walls of Hosack Hall. Its intrinsic value, however, to the present and future Academician will be found in its memorial character, for it will ever recall, like a living presence, the example of one who through a long life devoted his energies and substance to the task of endowing the Academy with a permanent home and a reference library unsurpassed in its completeness.

A BRIEF ACCOUNT OF THE PENNSYLVANIA INFIRMARY FOR DISEASES OF THE EYE AND EAR, ESTABLISHED IN THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA IN THE YEAR 1822.*

By CHARLES A. OLIVER, A.M., M.D.,
Member of the Library Committee of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, Philadelphia, Penn.

Last year, while in search of accurate records and definite data for use in a monograph upon the "Rise of Ophthalmology in the United States of America"—a work which is rapidly nearing completion—I was rewarded by the finding of the original minute book of the managers of the Pennsylvania Infirmary for Diseases of the Eye and Ear.

This manuscript record, partly in the handwriting of Dr. Isaac Hays, its donor to the College of Physicians, of Philadelphia, brings to light the existence of an infirmary for the special treatment of diseases of the eye and ear in the city of Philadelphia as early as February, 1822; more than 80 years ago.

Careful perusal of the minutes of the various meetings, extending over a period of more than seven years, exhibits the character of the men who managed the affairs of the institution, and offers evidence of the reputation of the surgeons who gave their skill to those who applied for relief.

Organized on the eighth day of February, 1822, with Mr. James Gibson in the chair, Dr. Isaac Hays, secretary, and Mr. Richard C. Wood, treasurer, the Infirmary made its appearance in the ophthalmic world.

At the initial meeting "it was resolved that the surgeons be a committee, with authority to procure a room for an infirmary, and to make arrangements for carrying into effect, the objects of the institution." The same committee was instructed to prepare an address to the public; to have 250 copies of it and a constitution printed in pamphlet form; and to frame a system of by-laws: all of which was to be reported upon at the next meeting of the board.

Twelve days later, at a managers' meeting—one at which Mr. William Meredith presided—the committee reported that it had obtained the use of a second-story room at No. 4 South Seventh street, by the month, at $100 per annum; that it had

*Read before the Historical Club of the Department of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania.

made arrangements with the apothecaries, Messrs. A. M. and E. L. Cohen, to furnish medicines at a reasonable rate; and that it had prepared an address and a constitution, and had had the specified number of copies printed in pamphlet form.

The amended by-laws adopted at this meeting, practically stated that there should be monthly meetings of the managers, three of whom should constitute a quorum; that the city should be divided into a northern and a southern district with Chestnut street as a dividing line; and that the surgeons for the northern and the southern districts respectively, should be in attendance at the Infirmary at 12 M. on alternate days during the week. It was further agreed that patients residing within the limits of the city who were not able to visit the Infirmary, should be attended at their homes; but that all patients living in other parts "of the State or elsewhere, who can attend the Infirmary will be received under the care of the institution." It was ordered that each surgeon was to remain on duty three months at a time, and that during this period he was to make entry of the name, the age, the occupation and the residence of the patient together with the diagnosis of the disease, in a book intended for that purpose; which record it was expressly stated "shall be laid before the managers at each meeting."

After these matters had been arranged, it was resolved that the surgeons should resolve themselves into a committee to have 1,000 copies of a letter of recommendation and rules for the government of patients printed.* The choice of necessary blank books and instruments was given to this same committee.

On the fourth of April of the same year† it was resolved that arrangements should be made by the surgeons, as a committee with instructions to obtain a cupper and leecher for the institution. At the same meeting it was agreed that a committee should be appointed "to address a letter, with a copy of our constitution and letter of recommendation, to the presidents of each of our charitable societies informing them that we are prepared to receive under the care of the institution all cases of diseases of the eye and ear which they will recommend." Mr. Gibson and Mr. Meredith were appointed as this committee. It was also resolved that a committee be appointed to revise the constitution—"to make such alterations as may be thought expe-

*I have as yet been unable to obtain a copy of this letter and rules.

†According to a note in the minutes there was not any meeting held in March.

dient in matter of form—not of substance" (mind ye! "but")—"to cause to be fairly copied, and after having obtained the signatures of the contributors, to present it to the Supreme Court in order to procure a charter." James Gibson, Dr. William Gibson and William Meredith were appointed that committee.

At this meeting, bills for $16 and $12 each for two quarters' rent and a sign were ordered to be paid to one, I. Meers.

The next meeting of importance and interest is that of the 20th of February, 1823. At this meeting the surgeons made a report of the cases attended by them from the fifteenth day of February, 1822, to the first of January, 1823. As a result, "it was resolved that a committee be appointed to report the cases attended by the surgeons to the contributors and to prepare and publish an address to the public." Mr. Gibson, Mr. Meredith and Mr. C. N. Bancker were appointed on this committee.

The committee "to make arrangements with a person to leech and cup," reported that they had made an agreement with a Mr. William Ripberger; this report was approved. The resignation of Dr. George B. Wood as surgeon was received and accepted. Dr. William Darrach was chosen to fill the vacancy. It was agreed that the meeting of the board in the future should be held quarterly instead of monthly.

There is not any further entry until the 22d of July, 1824, when, after the appointment of the officers for the year (Dr. Hays still retaining his secretaryship) "the treasurer reported a statement of the finances of the institution, which was accepted and a committee appointed to devise means for relieving the association from the financial embarrassments"—Richard C. Wood, C. N. Bancker and I. J. Kane were appointed on this committee.

About nine months later (on the ninth of May, 1825), a meeting of the board was held at the infirmary. There was a very good attendance; Messrs. Bancker, William H. Keating, Meredith, Wood and Dr. Wood (who seems to have been placed in the management) were present as managers, with the surgeons, Drs. Hays, Bell and Griffith. Mr. Meredith presided and Mr. Keating was appointed secretary.

A committee consisting of Mr. Gibson, Mr. Bancker and Dr. Griffith "was appointed to draft a circular letter, representing the situation of the institution and its usefulness, and urging the citizens to subscribe to it." The committee was ordered to have the same printed with the autograph names of the mana-

gers affixed to it. The preparation of a brief address soliciting the support of the public to the infirmary was given to the same committee with instructions to insert it in the city papers. In addition, the committee was requested to urge the collection of dues owing the institution.

A second committee composed of Messrs. Meredith, Bancker and Mr. Manuel Eyre "was appointed to make inquiry concerning the provisions of the late Mr. James Wills' legacy for the blind and lame, and to confer with the committee appointed some time since by councils on this subject, if (mark the proviso) that committee be still in existence.

"The surgeons were appointed a committee to make arrangements for a suitable room for the infirmary for the present year."

Some seven months later, on the 22d of December, 1825, at a meeting* of the board at which Mr. Gibson presided, it was "stated that with a view to avoid undue expenditure, Dr. Darrach had presented to the institution a collection of medicines for the use of the patients, and that the same had been replenished by the surgeons as it became necessary;" thus avoiding the necessity of presentation of an apothecary's bill; whereupon it was voted that the thanks of the board be given to the surgeons for their liberality.

At this meeting it was resolved that a committee be appointed to correspond with the members of the Legislature to obtain the passage of an act of incorporation for the contributors to the institution; Dr. Hays and Mr. Keating were placed on this committee.

At the first quarterly meeting in 1826, held on the second of March, the committee formed to procure an act of incorporation for the infirmary, reported that it had obtained such an act, a copy of which was produced and delivered to the surgeons.

The minutes of this meeting are in the handwriting of Dr. Griffith as secretary, he continuing to serve in that capacity until the end of the last recorded minute in the book.

*For the first time Mr. Meredith, as one of the managers, and Mr. Darrach, as one of the surgeons, are noted as present at a meeting.

†In the making of the Secretary's signature, Dr. Griffith spells his middle name "Eglesfield" (R. Eglesfield Griffith), proving that the spelling of this name as "Egglesfield" in the Alumni Catalogue of the Department of Medicine of the University of Pennsylvania is incorrect. The name in the catalogue immediately beneath, "R. Eglesfield Griffith," who graduated in 1855, also gives the single "g."

In the fall of the same year, at a meeting on the 29th of September, 1826, the names of Messrs. Patterson, Struthers and Kane are on the list of those who were present. At this meeting all of the surgeons (Drs. Bell, Hays, Darrach and Griffith) were in attendance.

A most interesting proposition of the landlord of the infirmary room, Mees, offering the room for $50 per annum "provided that he be allowed the use of said room in the evening when not wanted for the uses of the institution," appears at this meeting, and was agreed to by the board.

At the meeting Jan. 4, 1827, "the surgeons reported that since the last meeting Mr. Mees had refused the use of his room for the purpose of the institution," and that from the 14th of November all patients had been attended by the surgeons at their respective offices. A committee of three, Drs. Hays and Griffith with Mr. Merrick, was appointed with power to take measures to procure another room.

By the minutes of the next meeting on the first of November, 1827, it will be seen that one of the surgeons (Dr. Darrach, who first contributed the drugs) had in the meanwhile given the infirmary a room at $60 per annum, but as it, in the words of the minute book "was now rented to the Tract Society," it became necessary to procure another. A new committee (the same as the last) "was appointed to obtain a suitable room and take order thereon."

Messrs. Gibson, Meredith and Kane were ordered to prepare the annual report for 1826-27, together with an address to the public.

After an interval of a year and a half, on the 1st of May, 1829, the next and last meeting of the board is noted by Dr. Griffith, the secretary. All of the surgeons with Messrs. Bancker and Gibson as managers, were present. Mr. Bancker was appointed treasurer to succeed Mr. Wood, deceased.

At this meeting a Mr Bernard Doonin was authorized to collect subscriptions for the institution and two committees, one to examine and report as to the state of the finances, and the other to prepare an address to the public on the work accomplished by the institution, were formed.

These actions end the recorded minutes in this, the only book of the board that I have been able to obtain.

Armed with these notes, I determined to find more data upon the subject. Assiduously searching for the same, I unexpect-

edly came across one of the desired-for pamphlets—a copy of the original "Address to the Public." I found it buried in the midst of a number of "Medical Tracts, 1820-30," presented to the library of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, by Dr. John Bell, one of the surgeons to the infirmary. It is so brief that I give it in full.

. . . . . .

THE PENNSYLVANIA INFIRMARY FOR DISEASES OF THE EYE AND EAR.*

ESTABLISHED AT PHILADELPHIA.

In calling the attention and soliciting the patronage of the public to an institution which is to embrace the relief of a class of diseases having so important a bearing on individual happiness and social comfort, we need but advert to the success which has attended similar ones in Europe, more particularly those established at London and Vienna. In these cities, thousands have been annually relieved and cured of diseases of the eye and ear, who otherwise would have lost the use of these all-important organs, and proved a burthen to themselves and to society. Like benefits have resulted from institutions of the same nature in some of our own cities, and we may now confidently hope that the citizens of Philadelphia, distinguished for their zeal and liberality in the support of whatever tends to usefulness and charity, will not suffer the present opportunity to escape without testifying their approbation of the institution already organized, and prepared to commence its beneficial operation, as will be seen from the subjoined constitution, adopted at a respectable meeting of the contributors on Friday last.

CONSTITUTION.

1. The name of this Institution shall be the Pennsylvania Infirmary for Diseases of the Eye and Ear.

2. Every person who pays annually into the hands of the treasurer $2, shall become a contributor, and be entitled to the privileges of having two patients at a time under the care of the surgeons. The payment of $20 shall make a contributor for life.

3. There shall be attached to the Infirmary four surgeons

*Printed at Philadelphia in 1822 by William Fry, Printer, by order of the Society.

and two consulting surgeons, who shall be *ex officio* members of the Board of Managers.

4. One of the surgeons shall attend at the Infirmary daily.

5. In case of the resignation or demise of any of the surgeons, the Board of Managers shall choose a successor.

6. Eight managers shall be elected by the contributors, on the first Monday of January annually, to continue in office until the election of their successors.

7. The Board of Managers shall have the control of the finances and the superintendence of the domestic concerns of the Infirmary; and shall have power to make all necessary by-laws.

8. The Board of Managers shall annually elect a Treasurer.

9. Every case of disease of the eye and ear, if recommended by a contributor, shall be attended to under such regulations as the Managers shall prescribe.

10. Clinical instruction may be given under such regulations as shall be prescribed by the By-Laws.

11. This Constitution shall not be altered, unless at the annual meeting of contributors, two-thirds of those present consenting thereto.

12. The following gentlemen shall be Managers until the next election: James Gibson, William Meredith, Charles N. Bancker, Manuel Eyre, Robert M. Patterson, M.D.; Clement C. Biddle, William M'Ilvaine, Richard C. Wood.

The following gentlemen are appointed Surgeons: George B. Wood, M.D.; Isaac Hays, M.D.; John Bell, M.D., and Robert E. Griffith, M.D.

The following gentlemen are appointed consulting Surgeons: Phillip S. Physick, M.D.; William Gibson, M.D.

Subscriptions in aid of the above institution will be received by Richard C. Wood, Treasurer, or any of the Managers.

Patients, by applying at the Infirmary, No. 4 South Seventh street, will be immediately attended to.

. . . . . .

Study of this address and constitution at once shows that it states three important, but not well known facts: (1) The existence of institutions for the treatment of diseases of the eye and ear in this country prior to the year 1822; (2) the certainty of the establishment of a special infirmary for the treatment of diseases of the eye and ear in the city of Philadelphia as early as the year 1822; (3) that there were opportunities for clinical instruction in such diseases at this institution.

REMARKS ON LIBRARY MANAGEMENT.

By CHARLES PERRY FISHER,
Librarian of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia.

"Nemo solus sapit."

With the advent of a journal devoted to the bibliographical and historical branch of medical science there seems to be a favorable opportunity to advance a few suggestions in regard to the administration or management of the special library, which, in most cases, is the library of a society.

With the formation of a library of this class one of the organizers will usually offer his services as Librarian gratuitously, and remain in office until, if the affair has progressed successfully, so much time and attention is required that a paid employee is necessary. It is at this point that the first suggestion is offered which, while doubtless patent to all, is well worthy of consideration by those interested in library management; that is, the relation of the Librarian to the Committee or Board of Directors.

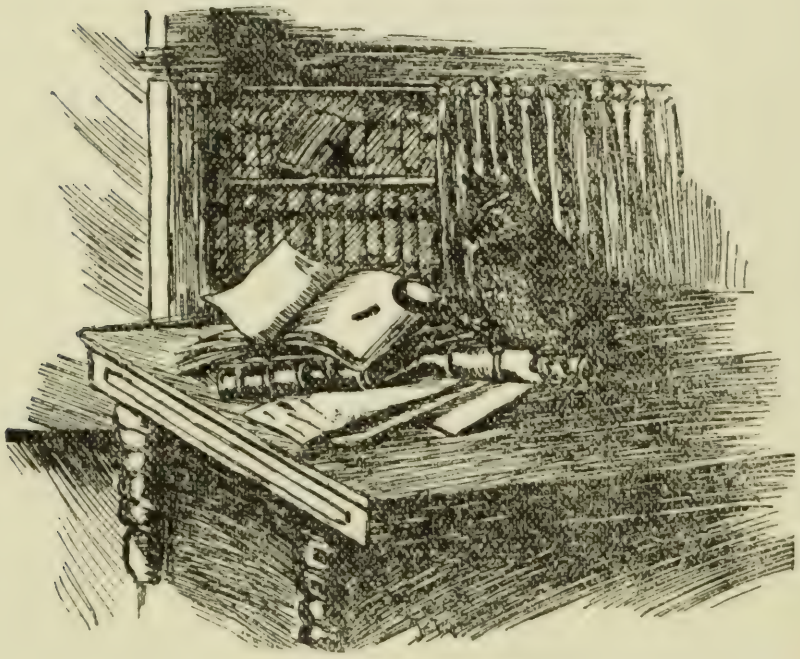
It is a well-known fact, or at least generally conceded, that scientific men, as a rule, are poor business managers. Perhaps some branches of science may be better represented than others; however, when a Librarian is employed who is not a member of the society or closely allied with the science of the library, there seems, from my meager collection of facts, to be a reluctance in delegating the authority which is necessary to his office. All affairs, even details, are brought before the Committee for their consideration, the Librarian's work being more or less hampered and his business or executive ability (if he possess any), overlooked or underestimated. The Board of Directors, Library Committee, or by whatsoever title the governing party is known, are responsible for the general management of the library, but it is the Librarian who does the work, under the rules formulated by the Committee or Society proper. If efficient, he is thoroughly conversant with every detail and, if not hampered in his actions, he is ready and able to act with authority at a moment's notice in any transaction that will be for the advancement of the library. In other words, if the Librarian has been found satisfactory, the management should be left practically in his hands, even so far as the employment of assistants (with the approval of the Committee), as no one should be better able to judge the worth of an employee. It is also important that the Librarian should be

present at the meetings of the Committee, either as a member by virtue of his office, or by invitation, since from his general knowledge of affairs, his opinion or advice will always be of service. Under such circumstances the Committee is in constant touch with the Librarian, assisting and advancing his work by examining the catalogues and new books which he should have ready for their inspection, recommending the books to be purchased, which is an essential point in a special library with a limited income.

The rules for the government or management of libraries, whether general or special, are essentially the same; but to such special libraries as permit their books to be taken out the following suggestion is offered as an addition or amendment to "Rules for loaning of books": A small printed slip is used in the form of a receipt, which must be signed by the member or one to whom he has delegated his authority by letter; these slips are arranged alphabetically according to the name of the member and are given back when the books are returned. If thought advisable, cards can be kept of books out, arranged alphabetically by classes, for the information of the desk clerk. This plan has been followed for more than a score of years in the Library of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia and every book accounted for. When calls are made by telephone, the books asked for are delivered by messenger and the receipt signed with no greater trouble than in receiving an express package or registered letter. It seems by far the most secure plan for a special library with a limited circulation.

I have a suggestion that is a matter of historical interest and value, chiefly, perhaps, to the Librarians of society libraries. In the Library of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia the hundreds and thousands of pamphlets and reprints received each month are classified on the same system as the books, and each class arranged alphabetically according to author; making them available, and of use, although not catalogued. I have made an exception to this rule which is the suggestion offered. Pamphlets or reprints received written by Fellows of the College are kept in separate boxes, arranged alphabetically according to the author and chronologically under the author's name. The Fellows are requested to make this collection as complete as possible, even to the extent of mounting articles clipped from journals where no reprints have been obtained, and, when the object has been explained, the responses have been gratifying. When there are a sufficient number under one author's name the pamphlets are

bound in a volume, lettered (Brown—Reprints—1899-1902—I) and placed on shelves. In several cases there are as many as five volumes under one author's name. In this way we obtain a permanent and available record of a man's work, and while the value may depend greatly on the individual, yet these collections are of use from a historical or biographical standpoint if from no other. It is possible with some labor to obtain a fairly accurate list of a man's writings during the period covered by the *Index Medicus*, and the Librarian of a society's library who gathers together the writings of its individual members and has them bound will be repaid for his work by the appreciation with which it is sure to be received.



SITODREPA PANICEA!

The Boston Medical Library.

THE BOSTON MEDICAL LIBRARY.

BY JAMES R. CHADWICK, M.D.,
Librarian, Boston, Mass.

In 1875, when this Library was founded, the books which a doctor needed to consult were scattered all over the city. The Society for Medical Observation had 1,000 volumes of periodicals, the Society for Medical Improvement had 500 volumes of periodicals, both kept in inaccessible places; the Treadwell Library at the Massachusetts General Hospital had 4,000 or 5,000 volumes; the Public Library 10,000 volumes. The use of the last two libraries was attended with restrictions, proper enough considering all things, but giving rise to much loss of time on the part of readers.

A number of us young men decided that the time was ripe for the formation of a medical library as an independent institution, under the control of the profession as a whole, which should bring under one roof the libraries of these two Societies and such other collections of books as could be secured. Accordingly an organization was effected, including 133 members. Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes was chosen President, the writer Librarian, and Dr. E. H. Brigham, Assistant-Librarian, at a salary sufficient to command all his time. Two rooms on Hamilton Place were hired, in which were installed the libraries of the two Societies as loans.

A catalog of these was prepared, and the Librarian authorized to make a series of raids upon all the private medical libraries of Boston, the result being that at the end of three years the associates had a library of 5,000 volumes, and several thousand volumes offered, for which there was no shelf room.

Our success in bringing together a library and establishing a reading-room of current periodicals having been made evident, the Association appealed to the profession and the public for means to secure larger and permanent quarters. Our returns were so liberal that we felt warranted in purchasing the house of the late Dr. Samuel G. Howe, 19 Boylston Place; remodeling it, so as to construct a hall for the meetings of all the medical societies of the city, the books being shelved around the walls of the hall. On the second story were reading rooms, and on the third, apartments for the Assistant Librarian and his family. In this building we remained for twenty-two years with ever increasing membership and rapidly increasing number of books, especially sets of periodicals, until our accumulations of volumes and

pamphlets so far exceeded our accommodations that finally we had 10,000 volumes stored in various places where they were absolutely inaccessible to students.

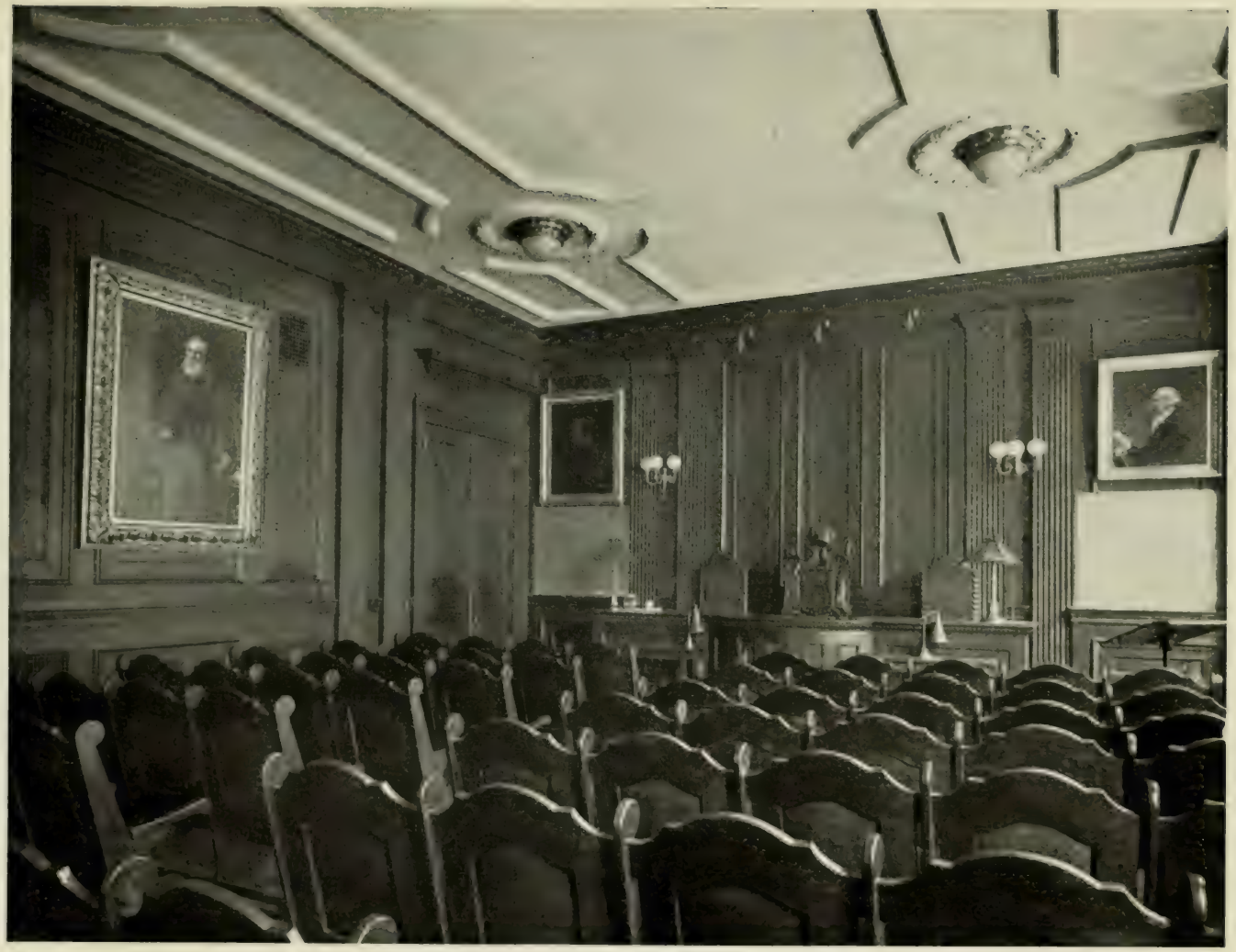
In the early nineties the inadequacy of our quarters began to be apparent and there was a movement set on foot by the officers of the Association to secure funds for better accommodations, but the panic of 1893 caused an indefinite postponement of any action.

In 1898 a band of the younger men, who felt strongly the hindrance to their studies and researches by the fact that the resources of the Library were not available, started an agitation which the governing body of the Library welcomed and fostered. At that time the Library consisted of 30,000 volumes and 26,000 pamphlets.

The result of the agitation was the uprising of the whole medical profession of Boston and its suburbs. Committees were appointed to canvass the profession and its friends for money with such good effect that within a year the sum of $70,000 was raised by subscription which, added to the sum realized by the sale of our old building, and to other accumulated funds, gave us $110,000 with which to secure new quarters.

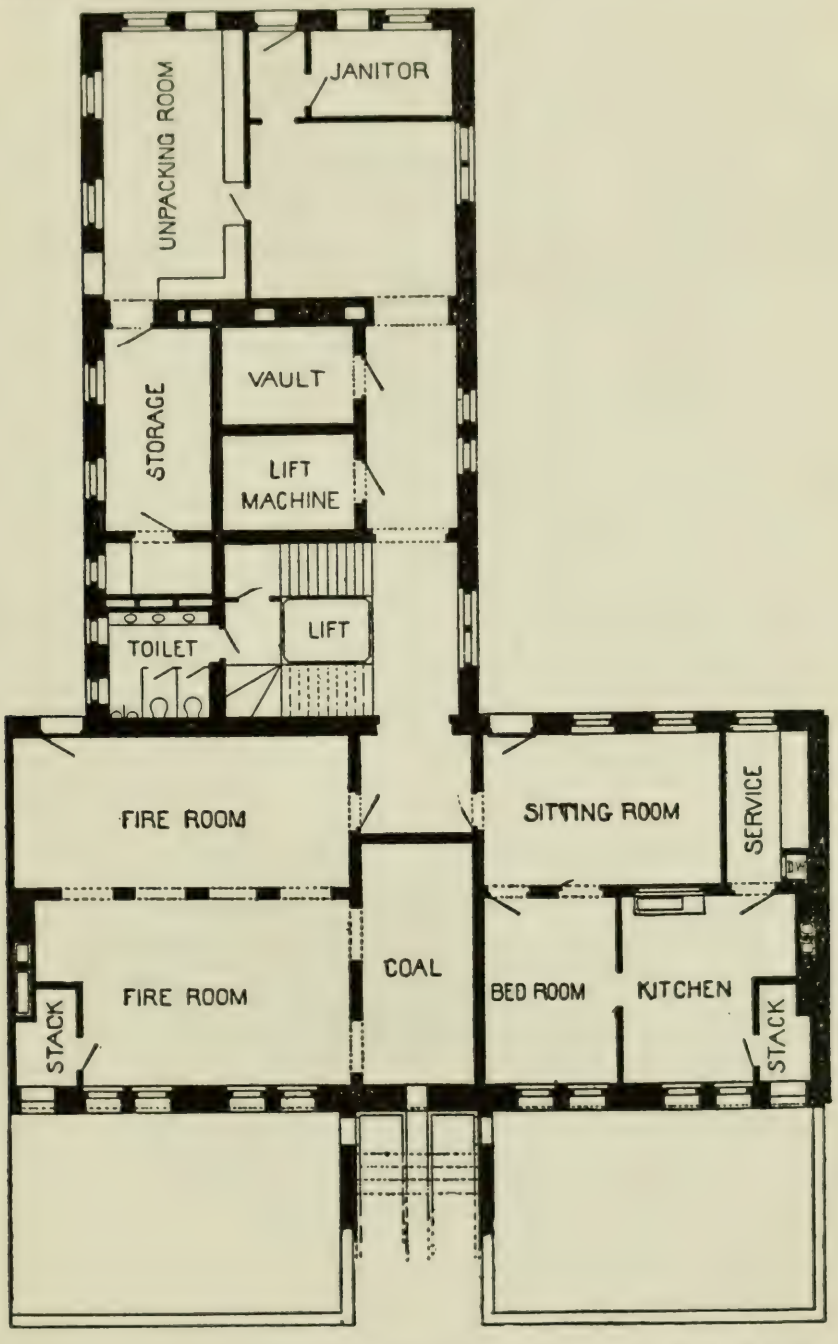
With this sum in hand we purchased a lot of land, with a beautiful outlook on the city's park, The Fens, 75 feet wide by 100 feet deep at an expense of $42,000, and put up a fireproof building which, furnished, cost $110,000. (*See Plate 6.*) Within the last week (February 27, 1903) the Association has voted to purchase the adjoining vacant lot of 3,000 square feet to provide for future extension. The contract has been signed and the deeds will pass during the present month.

But few words are needed to elucidate the illustrations of this building. On the ground floor we have the usual cellars, furnaces, janitor's room, fireproof vault, a room in which to unpack and arrange the books and put them on a dumb-waiter which will carry them to the stacks. On the next story, entrance on the front is into an octagonal hall, with a separate entrance from the vestibule into the directory for nurses, in connection with which is a suite of rooms for the registrar for nurses. Across the hallway is a small cloak-room, a lecturer's room opening into the hall for meetings, which is 32 by 28 feet and will accommodate sixty to seventy people, a hall large enough for ordinary meetings of the medical societies. (*See Plate 7.*) We had a donation of $5,000 from Congressman C. F. Sprague and his mother to dedi-



Boston Medical Library—Sprague Hall.

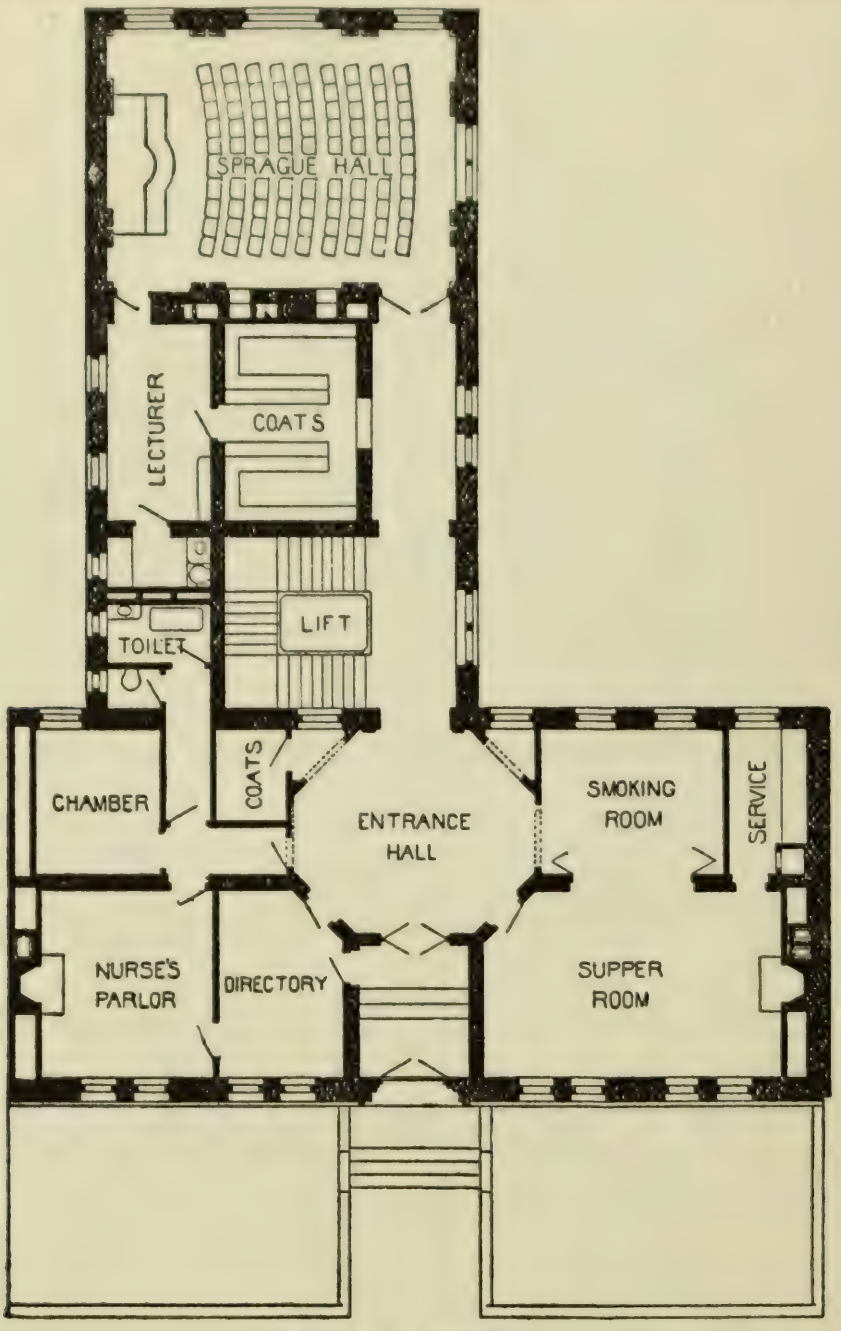
cate this hall to the memory of Dr. Richard Sprague, who died in 1892. On the right of the entrance is a supper-room, with pantry and dumb-waiter from the kitchen below. There is provision for an elevator.



BASEMENT PLAN

On mounting the stairs you enter Holmes Hall, the principal reading-room, a portrait of Dr. O. W. Holmes over the mantel-piece at one end, and a bronze bust of him at the other end. (*See*

Plate 8.) There are alcoves of books, in each of which is a small table, where a man is partially secluded while doing his work. On the shelves are the books most in demand. The room



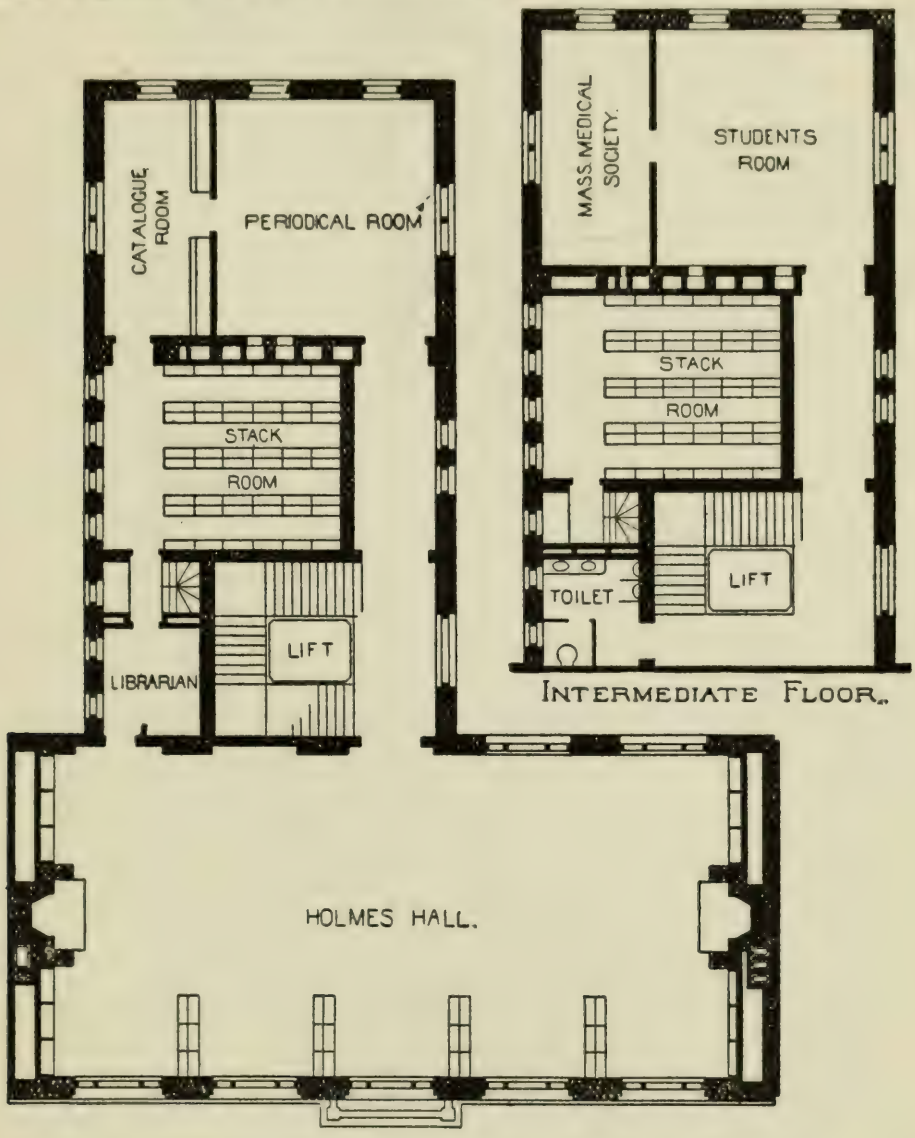
FIRST FLOOR PLAN.

is 72 feet long by 32 feet deep, beautifully lighted with big windows overlooking the Fenway. Its book shelves accommodate about 6,000 volumes. To the rear is the librarian's room. The stack-room has five stories of stacks, each accommodating

Boston Medical Library—John Ware Hall.

Boston Medical Library—Holmes Hall.

about 10,000 volumes. In the rear are the cataloger's room and a room in which the current periodicals are exposed. Half a story up are toilet-rooms, a room for medical students, and another, the Fifield Room, for committee meetings. On the next story is John Ware hall which seats 300 men. (*See Plate 8.*) In



SECOND FLOOR PLAN.

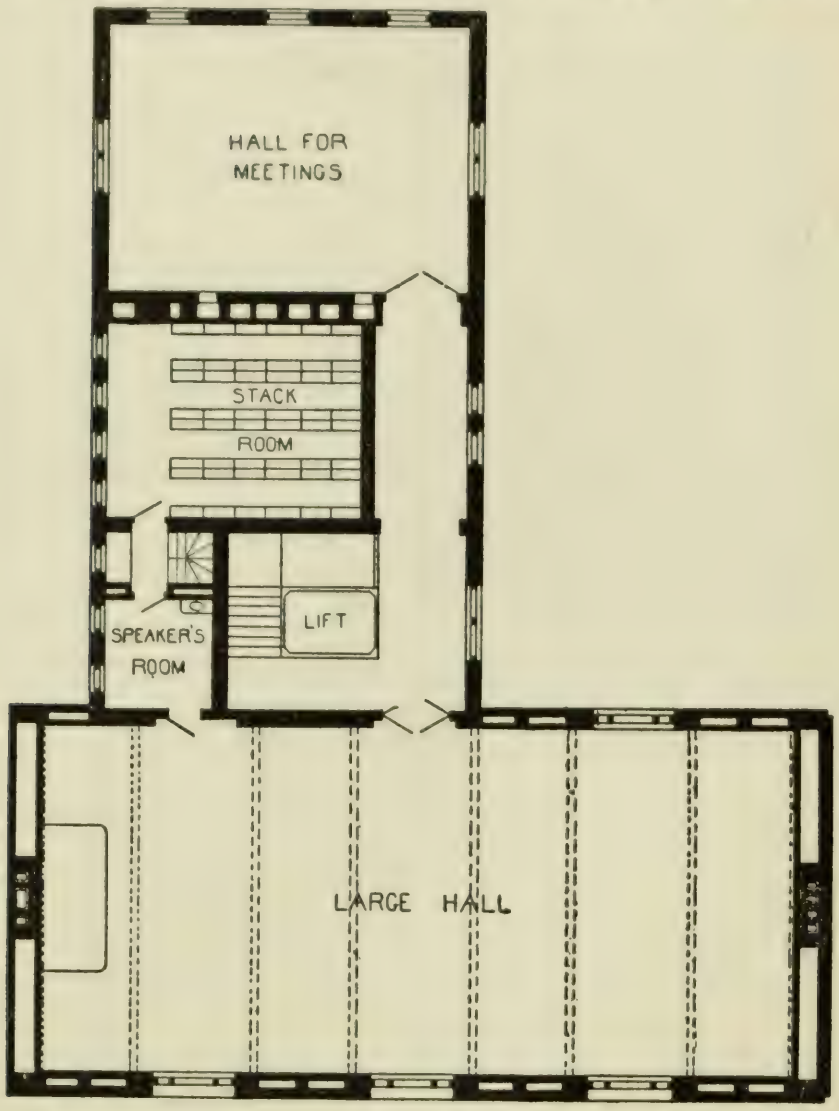
SCALE OF FEET.
0 1 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16

the rear is another hall of the same size as Sprague Hall, for smaller meetings.

We have a great many portraits of medical worthies by some of the best portrait painters of this day, including one of Dr. Samuel Danforth by Gilbert Stuart.

Just prior to the inauguration of this building, on January 12,

1901, the Association received from Dr. H. R. Storer of Newport, R. I., the gift of a remarkable collection of medical medals, numbering 2,300 pieces, than which there are only two larger collections in the world, that of Dr. Joseph Brettauer of Trieste, and that of the Army Medical Library in Washington. Our collec-



THIRD FLOOR PLAN

tion is to be known as the Storer Collection of Medical Medals in honor of the late Dr. D. H. Storer, the father of the donor. It is exhibited on leaves, hung on hinges, round Holmes hall, by which arrangement the reverse of the medals may be freely studied. The portrait of Dr. D. H. Storer by Vinton, hangs above the card catalog case, in close proximity to the medals. Several

hundred new specimens are added to the collection annually by the original donor. Besides our library, now consisting of about 35,000 volumes (of which more than 20,000 are periodicals) and 30,000 pamphlets, we have a collection of medical autographs, numbering several thousand, and are beginning a collection of medical book-plates.

Having thus sketched in the briefest possible words the early history and present condition of the Boston Medical Library I would dwell upon a few features of our career in order to guide and stimulate other corporations who are less far advanced toward the goal for which we are all striving.

First, as regards our collection of books and periodicals, I am frequently asked how they have been procured with little if any expenditure of money. The ways were numerous, but all natural. We started with about 1,500 volumes loaned to us by the two Societies above mentioned; with a list of these I personally visited every physician in town who was known to have a considerable library, and from these I solicited, and usually obtained, such as I wanted. From these sources I increased the library so that, at the end of the second year it numbered 6,000 volumes. The editors of the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal* have given us for twenty-seven years the journals received by them in exchange, by which liberal succor we have been able to lay before our readers an abundance of current literature without expense to us. Of course a limited number of journals had to be secured by subscription to insure prompt delivery. The same course has been followed by the editors of the *Annals of Gynecology and Pediatry* since its foundation in 1887. From instrument-makers and drug firms we have from time to time received the accumulations of journals which they received gratuitously because of their advertisements.

As soon as we had made it evident that we were meeting a long-felt want and were to be a permanency, we began to receive, as gifts or on deposit, the libraries of other associations, the Gynecological Society of Boston, the Boston Dispensary, the Roxbury Athenæum; more recently the library of the Harvard Medical School, exclusive of such volumes as were reserved for use in connection with its several laboratories; the medical department of the Harvard College Library in Cambridge, etc.

All the medical journal clubs, which subscribe for and circulate current periodicals among their members turn them over to us when they have made the circuit.

Very soon we began to receive, as bequests or gifts of surviving relatives, the libraries of all deceased physicians, among the most important of which I would mention those of Dr. Edward H. Clarke, Dr. John E. Tyler, Dr. George C. Shattuck, Dr. Edward Jarvis, Dr. Calvin Ellis, Dr. R. W. Hooper, Dr. Samuel Cabot, Dr. John O. Greene, Dr. F. H. Hooper, Dr. T. B. Curtis, Dr. Edward Wigglesworth, Dr. O. W. Holmes, Dr. A. M. Sumner, Dr. W. C. B. Fifield, Dr. Edward Jacob Forster and many others.

The completeness of our files of journals and transactions is largely due to a "want book," which has gone through three editions in manuscript, wherein, upon the left hand page, is entered the title of every periodical of which we have any part, while on the opposite page is entered every volume or number needed to complete the file. By invariably carrying this with me upon my travels in this country and Europe, I have been able gradually, at a trifling expenditure of money, or by exchange with other libraries, to complete the files of all the leading periodicals of the world.

Our aim has been to devote all our energy, and such small sums of money as could be spared from current expenses, to the department of periodicals as being the class of literature most in demand, especially since the publication of the *Index Catalogue of the Library of the Surgeon General's Office,* the *Index Medicus* and the *Bibliographia Medica.* We have over 20,000 volumes of periodicals as contrasted with 15,000 books, not including our duplicate library for home circulation, which numbers 3,000 to 4,000 volumes of the principal periodicals.

Finally, as to finances. For the first three years we depended upon the annual dues of 133 members at the outset and gradually increasing. In 1878 we raised by subscription over $10,000 with which we bought the house, 19 Boylston Place, remodeled it and found ourselves with a mortgage of $8,000, which was paid off three years later. In 1879 we established a Directory for Nurses from which there has been an annual profit of from $2,000 to $4,000. Since our removal to Boylston Place we have leased our halls to various medical societies for their meetings from which the revenue has been from $1,000 to $1,200 a year. Finally, in 1898-1899 we raised by subscription $70,000 with which we built, and moved into the present building, finding ourselves with a mortgage of $25,000 on which the interest is to be met for five years by seventy of the younger members, and a second mortgage of

$22,000. This year we have assumed another mortgage of $24,000 for the purpose of purchasing the adjoining lot of 3,000 square feet and holding it for future development. A few funds, varying from $300 to $1,500 in memory of deceased members, the interest of which is devoted to the purchase of books, complete the list of our assets.

Our membership now consists of 6 life members compounding the annual dues by a single payment of $150, 410 active members paying $10 yearly and 159 associate members paying $5 yearly.

We have the utmost faith in the future, based on reasonable expectations, of being able to meet the obligations which we have assumed, in the near future. Last year's income from all sources amounted to over $10,000 and our expenses exceeded that sum by only $200.

P. S.—Our faith is shown to have been well founded, by the official announcement made, while these pages have been going through the press, that our Library is a beneficiary, under the will of the late Robert C. Billings, to the extent of $50,000.—Boston, March 21, 1903.

DUSTING THE LIBRARY.

By GRACE WHITING MYERS,

Assistant Librarian, Treadwell Library, Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, Mass.

During the months just past, we librarians in Eastern cities have had a chance to appreciate one of the evils experienced to a greater degree by our confrères of the West, where soft coal is the chief item of fuel. With the exception of natural gas, it sheds the blackest, greasiest, stickiest, most penetrating kind of dust imaginable, and without constant care and watchfulness, books become literally choked with it, and one almost needs to don gloves before attempting to read. That "eternal vigilance" which is the price of all liberty, has here a chance for fullest manifestation, and this is the way it is exercised in one moderate sized library:

The daily care consists in wiping with a dry cloth all the vacant shelf space, reaching in behind the books as far as possible without disturbing them. As the time is limited, this is all that can be done in the early morning before the room is occupied. Twice a week, an afternoon is given to dusting the edges of the shelves. A soft cloth is dampened by wetting one end, turning

this end into the dry end, and wringing all together very tight. Then, with the left hand (which, of course, must be perfectly dry) placed at the top of a book, the book is tipped toward the back of the shelf, while with the right hand, having the damp cloth about the fingers (not held in the hand), the dust is removed from the edge of the shelf and from under the book, which is then dropped back into place. If the volumes are small, two or three may be tipped at once. It may be argued that this will leave a damp shelf to which the book will stick, thereby injuring the edge of the binding. But care must be taken that the cloth is not too wet, and no trouble will ensue. Plenty of cloths must be provided, they must not be too large, and they must be changed frequently. Of course, the books will slip out of line, but they can quickly be straightened when a whole case has been dusted, and the entire process takes much less time than one would imagine. Once a month the books occupying the lowest rows of shelves, where dirt and lint collect most quickly, are removed and with the covers held tightly together to prevent the dust from sifting between the leaves, are brushed on their tops and backs with a broad soft paint-brush, and afterwards wiped all over with a cloth. At this time the shelves are washed, and perfectly dried before replacing the volumes. As often as once in four months the upper shelves receive the same treatment.

Then once a year comes the dreaded "house cleaning," when the books have their annual "'shaking-up," shelves are removed and the inside of the cases thoroughly cleaned; for this Library boasts of no modern steel stacks, but is furnished with old-fashioned wooden cases. After everything has been once more restored to place, each case is covered with a curtain made of heavy unbleached cotton, which is tucked carefully in at all edges, and then the room is submitted to the hands of scrubbers and cleaners.

This care, as partially herein described, has insured the safety of the books, given to the Library an air of freshness and cheeriness, and the books may be handled without fear of more than a shadow of grime on one's fingers.

MEDICAL LIBRARY AND HISTORICAL JOURNAL

DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF MEDICAL LIBRARIES, BIBLIOGRAPHY, HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL LIBRARIANS

EDITORS

ALBERT T. HUNTINGTON
BROOKLYN

JOHN S. BROWNNE
NEW YORK

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Vol. I April, 1903 No. 2

EDITORIAL.

THE "INDEX MEDICUS," MR. ANDREW CARNEGIE AND MEDICAL LIBRARIES.

We venture to state that no work undertaken by the Carnegie Institute is of more practical value or of wider reaching influence than the continuance of the publication of the *Index Medicus.* Its benefits accrue not alone to the advancement of a single special branch of science but also in a marked degree to the betterment of the physical condition of all mankind—and, if the phrase *mens sana in corpore sano* has a true significance, to the betterment of the moral and mental condition of the general public, as well. Through the *Index Medicus* the medical literature of the world, the record of every advance in medicine, is made available to each individual practitioner and through him to every individual community.

It is through the generosity of Mr. Carnegie that the *Index Medicus* is enabled to resume publication. In itself, the *Index Medicus* is only a tool; it serves only as a spigot to the vast reservoirs of all contemporary medical knowledge, research and prog-

ress—the medical libraries. The direction of Mr. Carnegie's benefactions in establishing libraries well might be partially turned toward the medical library field. The resultant benefits accruing to the present generation and to posterity would not be surpassed by any other kind of library benefaction. We cannot do better than quote from the recent writing of an eminent physician on the subject of the medical library and its relation to the community at large: "The author of the medical book, etc., undertakes his work to emphasize and demonstrate principles, to record cases, to make known discoveries and place on record success or failure of measures. These are educational, therefore, and form an important part of the workers' equipment, who are thereby enabled to profit by the experience of ages, to avoid mistakes and utilize triumphs. The value of years of multiplication of such products is enormous and the number of valuable lives thus reflected by a large library is very great. Whom will it benefit? has been asked on various occasions. It would be difficult to name those whom it will not benefit, indirectly at least. It is a workshop and consultation room for the graduate in medicine, bringing him into close touch with all records. His patients will thus profit by the best advice in the world. The undergraduate will use it as a study room. . . . It will afford important assistance to the sanitarian. Education, preservation and restoration of health will sum up its aim and object."

Mr. Carnegie rightly believes in helping those who help themselves. The medical libraries throughout the country have been formed largely by the resources of the physicians themselves and benefactions from outside the profession have been neither many nor large. The medical profession, as a class, is by no means a wealthy one, and contributions for the support and maintenance of medical libraries and the erection of suitable buildings commensurate with the value of the collections reposed therein, have been at the cost of large personal sacrifice by the profession. Yet, to none other does the public owe so great an unpaid debt as to the medical profession. Hospitals, dispensaries and medical schools have received liberal bequests, yet the most important post-graduate school, the medical library, has been neglected.

Mr. Carnegie, in his recent generous and well directed donation of $50,000 to the medical library of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, has opened up a fertile field of benefaction which we trust his inclination and sound judgment will prompt him to extend.

A SERIES OF FACSIMILE REPRINTS OF MEDICAL AMERICANA.

Few copies of the early contributions to medical literature written by Americans and published in this country are in existence. From an historical standpoint these early American contributions to medical science are worthy of better fate than that which has attended them until finally and safely lodged in a corporate library. For the better and more permanent preservation of these valuable monographs, the *Medical Library and Historical Journal* has undertaken the reproduction of a series of these in facsimile.

The first to be published will be "The Abuses and Scandals of Some Late Pamphlets in Favour of Inoculation of the Small Pox, Modestly obviated, and Inoculation further consider'd in a Letter to A—— S——, M.D. & F.R.S., In London," a monograph by William Douglass printed by Franklin at Boston in 1722. Photographic plates of the book will be made in exact facsimile and an illustrated prefatory sketch (historical, biographical and bibliographical) will be written by Lewis Stephen Pilcher, A.M., M.D., LL.D., the widely known medical bibliophile and editor of the *Annals of Surgery*. The issue will be strictly an edition de luxe, limited to 150 signed and numbered copies, printed in the best style of the typographical art, on large paper and bound in gray boards.

Numbers will be assigned in the order in which subscriptions are received. The price of each book will be $1.00 *net,* payable on delivery. After the limited edition has been printed the plates will be destroyed and the book will not be re-issued.

THE BOOK-WORM.

In a letter to the *New York Times Saturday Review of Books and Art,* of Feb. 21st, Mr. William Austen supplied two additional references to the literature of the book-worm; one in *The Nation* of April 16, 1896, and the other in the *Popular Science Monthly* of June, 1899. Dr. Thomas Windsor, the well known English bibliophile, in a personal communication, supplies another reference, O'Conor's "Facts About Book-Worms."

We note these addenda to the bibliography of the book-worm for the benefit of those who read Dr. F. P. Henry's contribution to the subject in the last number of the *Journal* and who may desire these supplementary data.

A WORD OF THANKS.

The JOURNAL desires to extend its thanks to the medical press for the kindly reception accorded the initial number, and to all who have contributed toward its support by becoming subscribers. While the number of the latter is very gratifying, we desire to double our present subscription list and we solicit the interest of our present subscribers to this end. A practical way of doing this is for each one to send in the name and address of one or more parties personally known to be especially interested in the fields which the JOURNAL is designed to cover. A larger subscription list will mean a better and enlarged journal in which every reader will share alike.

NOTES AND NEWS.

Under the initiative of Dr. Peypers, the editor of *Janus,* a large medical historical society has been formed in Holland. Indications point that America will not be far behind in forming a national medical historical society. Attention was directed to this matter in an editorial in the last number of the JOURNAL and according to the *Medical News* the suggestion is being taken up very enthusiastically. The close of the current year will probably see the establishment of such an organization on a broad foundation.

The Library of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia is in receipt of $100,000, one-half of which was given by Mr. Andrew Carnegie. The funds will be applied either to the remodeling of the old building or to the erection of an entirely new structure. In the latter event, at least another $100,000 will be required.

The Boston Medical Library has just received a bequest of $50,000 from the late Robert C. Billings.

The *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal* has just completed its 75th anniversary and is the oldest medical weekly in America. The first number appeared on February 19, 1828, and the journal has been published weekly, without interruption, since that date. It has behind it a very enviable record of excellence which it ably maintains to-day.

BOOK REVIEWS.

THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CHARAKA CLUB. Vol. 1. Limited Edition. N. Y., W. Wood & Co., 1902. Front., 4 l., 97 pp., 18 pl. 8vo. Price: Boards, $3.00.

The Charaka Club was organized in 1898 by a number of medical men "interested in the literary, artistic and historical aspects of medicine." Out of 27 papers read before the Club, 8 are published in the volume before us. The Club takes its name from the Hindoo sage, Charaka, to whom is credited the oldest extant work on the subject of Hindoo medicine. Appropriately, therefore, Dr. B. Sachs' paper, "On Hindoo Medicine," is first in the volume. After commenting on the "Ayur Veda" Dr. Sachs portrays some of the principles of Hindoo medicine and surgery together with a sketch of the Hindoo physician.

Dr. Frederick Peterson contributes three poems of which "Environment" is perhaps the best though the theme is far from new.

Dr. Arpad G. Gerster's "On the Hippocratic Doctrine of the Injuries of the Cranium" is one of the best contributions the volume contains. Dr. Gerster's point on the value of the historical retrospect is well put. Contempt for the ancient indicates an obtuse intellect.

Dr. Joseph Collins' two incursions into the field of fiction are not above mediocrity; mildly salacious without the saving leaven of wit or satire.

"The Cult of Æsculapius; His Statues and His Temple" by Dr. Charles L. Dana is a valuable addition to the literature of medical history. From various sources Dr. Dana has compiled an interesting (and as duly authentic as can be) sketch of Æsculapius, the Greek worship of whom dates from about 800 B.C. The many statues of him are described and illustrated by plates as are also the temple and sacred grove at Epidauros wherein the worship of Æsculapius was carried on for 800 years.

In lighter vein, Dr. Dana also contributes a paper on "The Evil Spoken of Physicians" in which he points out the antiquity of the origin of many of the jests and jokes made on the physician which have done duty for centuries. One, "The physician is fortunate, for the sun exploits his successes, and the earth conceals his errors," is traced back to the fourth century B.C. How many times, with an occasional new twist, it has done duty since then!

The volume concludes with an essay by Dr. Ward A. Holden on "The Ophthalmology of the Greeks."

The physician who has an interest in his profession outside its mere commercial aspects will find in this all too slight volume a singular charm at once restful and inspiring. To the receptive mind historical retrospect, when well presented, carries a mental pleasure distinctively its own. There cannot be too many books such as the "Proceedings," nor too many clubs such as the "Charaka." Of the volume itself we can only add—read it.

HISTORY OF MEDICINE: With the Code of Medical Ethics. By Nathan Smith Davis, A.M., M.D., LL.D. Chicago, Cleveland Press (1903). Port. front., 209 pp. Roy. 8vo. Price: Cloth, $2.00.

Dr. Davis, in the book before us, does not claim to present an exhaustive and voluminous history of medicine since he states in the preface that each chapter represents a lecture delivered before the senior class of the Northwestern University Medical School, the chapters being in the order in which the lectures were given. Yet, in these 209 pages, he has so condensed his material that he has covered the whole field from the pre-Hippocratic era up to the present day. In the process of elimination he has not neglected to bring out the salient points, and in style the volume is most readable. As a bird's-eye view of the history of medicine the book is above criticism.

In chronological order, Chapter 1 deals with the pre-Hippocratic era; Chapter 2 with Hippocrates and the five succeeding centuries; Chapter 3 with Galen and to the end of the seventh century, A.D.; Chapter 4 with the history of medicine from the seventh to the fourteenth century; Chapter 5 with the fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth centuries; Chapters 6 and 7 with the seventeenth century; Chapter 8 with the eighteenth, and Chapters 9 to 12 with the nineteenth century.

This chronological order is the only feature which lends to the book the semblance of a "ready-reference" work. Though obviously not designed for this purpose but rather for a "reading" book, the compactness with which the subject is covered makes us regret the more that a comprehensive index was not included. The history's value would have been increased a hundred-fold thereby and this defect, we trust, will be remedied in a second edition which the merits and low price of the volume warrant.

Chapter 13 deals with the sectarian dogmas of the last two centuries and the volume concludes with a chapter on the origin and progress of medical ethics. On page 132 Dr. Davis states that

"perhaps the first of the society organizations in America to commence the publication of a separate volume of transactions was that of Massachusetts prior to 1800." This publication (1790) to which Dr. Davis refers was antedated two years by the "Cases and Observations by the Medical Society of New Haven County, in the State of Connecticut" (1788).

The publishers have done their part well and have issued a most attractive volume.

LIFE AND CORRESPONDENCE OF HENRY INGERSOLL BOWDITCH. By his son, Vincent Y. Bowditch. In Two Volumes. Boston and New York, Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 1902. Vol. 1; Port. front., vii, 337 pp., 7 pl.; Vol. 2; Port. front., 2 l., 397 pp., 6 pl. 8vo. Price: Cloth, $5.00.

The number of biographies dealing with medical men is by no means commensurate with the important part they play in promoting the welfare of mankind. It is with pleasure, therefore, that we take up these two sumptuous volumes devoted to the life of one of Boston's leading physicians. In excellence of typographical appearance and illustration the work of the publishers is all that could be desired.

Written by his son and incorporating many personal letters, we are brought into close touch with the man himself. This intimate acquaintance reveals the spontaneous affection and large heartedness of Dr. Bowditch, whose austere New England parentage and early environment in old Salem left but slight traces of the stern and puritanical New England traits of character. Inherent love of frolic, of nature, of freedom and of country were boyish characteristics which attended him through life.

Feeling himself unfit for the study of law or the ministry, and a commercial career being distasteful to him, almost with indifference he took up the study of medicine at Harvard Medical School under the chief instruction of Dr. James Jackson. In pursuing post-graduate study in Paris under Andral, Louis and others, Dr. O. W. Holmes was one of his associates. It was in Paris that he wooed and won the love of a young English girl, but the engagement was broken on account of the opposition of his father, who feared his son's ardent, impulsive temperament might wreck his future by choosing so early one who might prove unworthy. This opposition being removed, several years later they were married, after his return and settlement in practice at Boston.

His native love of freedom led Dr. Bowditch to enter unre-

strainedly into the support of the Abolition cause, at that time very unpopular in Boston, and much of this biography is taken up with this phase of his activities. Boston was scandalized when he walked the streets arm in arm with Frederick Douglass and dined him at his home. Years later, at three score and ten, thrilled through with the same spirit, he followed Garibaldi through the streets of Geneva shouting and throwing his hat up in the air. So great did his sense of independence carry him that for a time he declined to join the Massachusetts Medical Society for fear of being bound by pledges he might desire to disregard.

Notwithstanding his outside interests his chosen profession was always paramount in his mind and he rose to be one of the leading physicians of Boston. He was the first to bring *paracentesis thoracis* into use and was instrumental in founding the Massachusetts Board of Health, of which he was the first chairman. He held many positions of honor in the medical profession and his letters on his various travels show a wide and intimate acquaintance with the leading medical lights of Europe.

We have touched but lightly upon the contents of these two volumes so that their readers may enjoy the charm of freshness. The inner life of the great physician, his family life, his ambitions, his noble spirit, his professional and public achievements lie open to the reader with all their power of stimulus and inspiration. None can fail to profit therefrom and enjoy to the full the reading of this "Life."

Dr. Bowditch's philosophy was not at fault when he said: "I often think I have done more good to some poor weary patients by sitting down and telling them of a delightful European experience than by all the drugs I have ever poured down their throats." The spontaneous touch of human kindness characterized his whole life. His associates came to him always confident of his sympathy, certain of kindly affectionate counsel, given never in any pharisaical spirit, but simply as the expression of his earnest desire to lend a helping hand.

Biographic Clinics: The Origin of the Ill-Health of De Quincey, Carlyle, Darwin, Huxley and Browning. By George M. Gould, M.D. Philadelphia, P. Blakiston's Son & Co., 1903. Front. viii, 9-223 pp. 12mo. Price: Cloth, $1.00.

In this meritorious study of biographic symptomatology, the author makes out a good case for astigmatism as a most probable factor in the causation of the malady of each of the distinguished

sufferers. His error lies in his insistence that this alone is the *cause*. Induction is a skittish steed to drive. Almost infinite co-ordination is sometimes necessary to make a safe induction. One's generalization must cover all particulars; apparent exceptions must be explainable. Wide as is his experience, modest love of truth should have restrained his ardor into humility in presence of the magniture of his generalization.

The argued chapters are spicy and rich with important observations and ophthalmologic truths and we have no quarrel with the author's enthusiasm in stating them. He does not emphasize too greatly the need of correcting ametropia, as demonstrated in "Responsibilities;" but his overzeal in drawing taut the logical rein in one direction unfortunately has caused him to hold a slack rein in another. He has failed to make his steeds keep an even pace. To some extent it is the *post hoc* again; but more largely it is the *petitio principii* as seen in such phrases as "Insomnia is one of the most common and persistent symptoms of eye-strain;" "The pained, exhausted look of eye-strain;" "The reflexes of eye-strain," etc. The author cannot surpass us in esteem of Mitchell, yet we take exception to the viewpoint of his particular eulogium. Recently Mitchell himself has put a damper on the effort to carry too far the particular emphasis he laid on eye-strain, and even his views on causation in connection therewith are subject to revision. Two or more faulty conditions may have a common cause. One is treated, the other is relieved: the cause is untouched. Correction of ametropia may relieve gastrodynia; but the cause of the gastrodynia may be the cause of the ametropia. The author illustrates the fact of progressive ametropia by a foot-note in which he cites the case of a boy for whom he changed glasses frequently to correct an increasing ametropia and control the vomiting caused by it. Surely, Homer nodded here. For, if the correction of the ametropia was the all-important and only important thing, why did it not stay corrected? Because, and only because it was not the true *causa causens*. This is true in general as well as in this special instance.

On the whole, Dr. Gould observes carefully and minutely; all the more can he not afford to make important slips in his logic.

NEW MEDICAL PUBLICATIONS.

FIRST QUARTER OF 1903.

Compiled by the Editors.

Note: Applications for any of the following new books will be forwarded to their proper destination by the JOURNAL.

ABBOTT, A. C. Principles of bacteriology. 6 ed. *Lond., Lewis.* 12s. 6d.

AHRENS, F. B. Das Gährungsproblem. *Stuttgart, Enke.* m. 1.20.

ALBARRAN, J., et IMBERT, L. Les tumeurs du rein. *Paris, Masson.* fr. 20.

ALBERT-WEIL, E., et SERSIRON, G. La Tuberculose. *Paris, Cornély.* fr. 3.

ALLAN, F. J. Aids to sanitary science. For the use of candidates for public health qualifications. 2 ed. *Lond., Baillière.* 4s.

ALT, K. Die familiäre Verpflegung der Kranksinnigen in Deutschland. *Halle, Marhold.* m. 1.50.

AMERICAN TEXT-BOOK OF OBSTETRICS. Ed. by R. C. Norris and R. L. Dickinson. 2 ed. *Lond., Saunders.* 35s.

ANGLAS, J. Phénomènes des métamorphoses internes. *Paris, Naud.* fr. 2.

ARISTOTLE'S PSYCHOLOGY: Treatise on the principle of life. Tr. by W. A. Hammond. *N. Y., Macmillan.* $3.00.

ARMSBY, H. P. The principles of animal nutrition. *N. Y., J. Wiley & Sons.* $4.00.

ARMY MEDICAL SYSTEM: What it is, is not and what it ought to be. By one who knows. *Lond., Sands & Co.* 1s.

AUDEBERT-LASROCHAS, G. Contribution à l'étude de la porokératose. *Paris, Steinheil.* fr. 2.50.

BAGINSKY, A. Lehrbuch der Kinderkrankheiten. 7. Aufl. *Leipzig, S. Hirzel.* m. 8.

BAIRD, A. W. Tuberculosis, communicable, preventable, curable. *N. Y., J. T. Dougherty.* $0. 10.

BALDWIN, J. M. The story of the mind. *N. Y., Appleton.* $0.35.

BARDET, G. Formulaire des nouveaux remèdes. 13 éd. *Paris, Doin,* fr. 4.

BARLOW, W. S. L. Elements of pathological anatomy and histology. *Lond., Churchill.* 24s.

BARTHEZ. De la résection dans l'ostéomyélite. *Paris, Steinheil.* fr. 4.50.

BARTHOLOW, R. Practical treatise on materia medica and therapeutics. 11 ed. *N. Y., Appleton.* $5.00.

BARTLETT, C. Text-book of clinical medicine: principles of diagnosis. *Phil., Boericke & Tafel.* $7.00.

BAUFIELD, M. Some unsettled questions in hospital administration in the U. S. *Phil., Am. Acad.* $0.25.

BEDDARD, A. P., EDKINS, J. S., *et al.* Practical physiology. *N. Y., Longmans, Green.* $5.20.

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